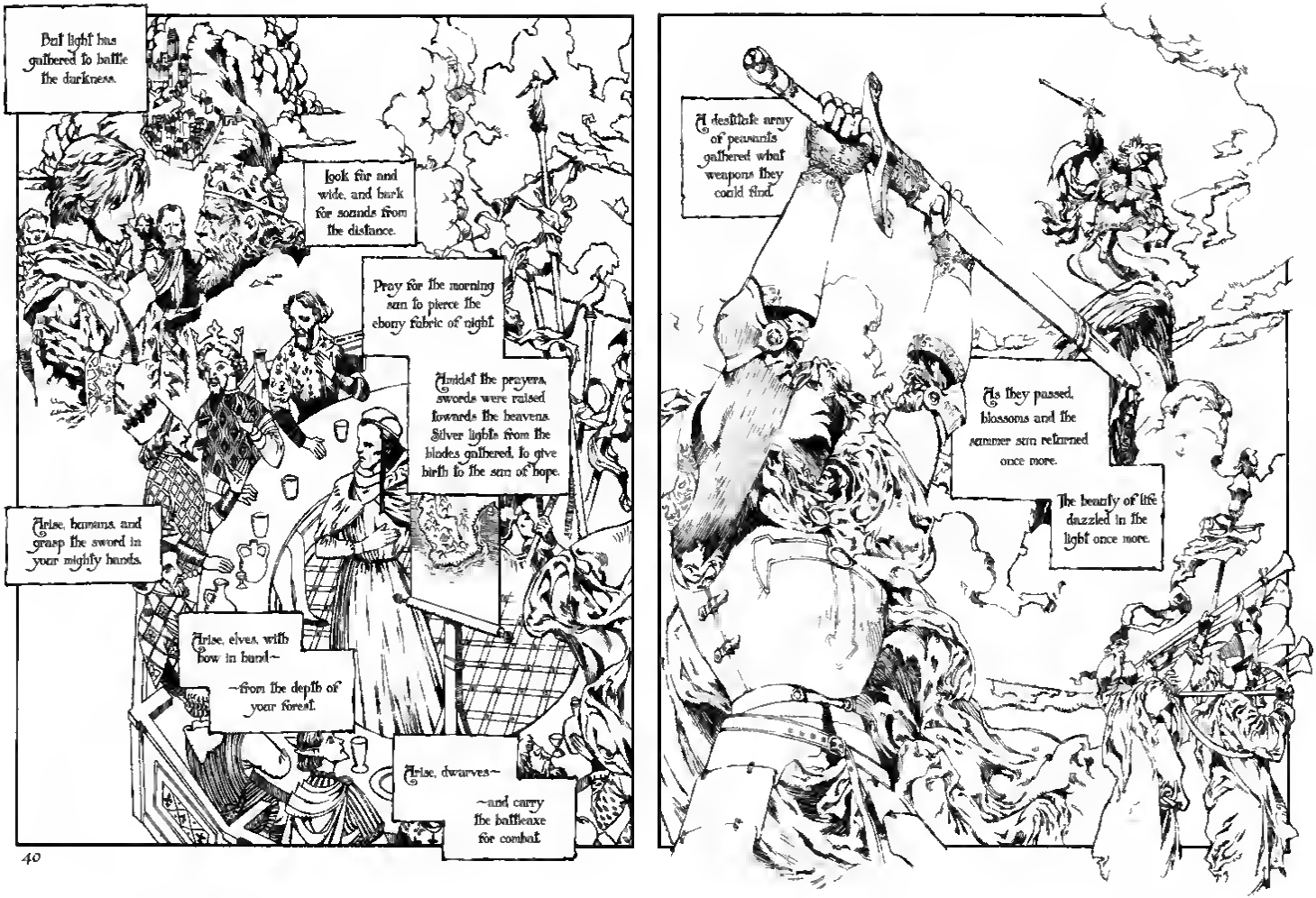
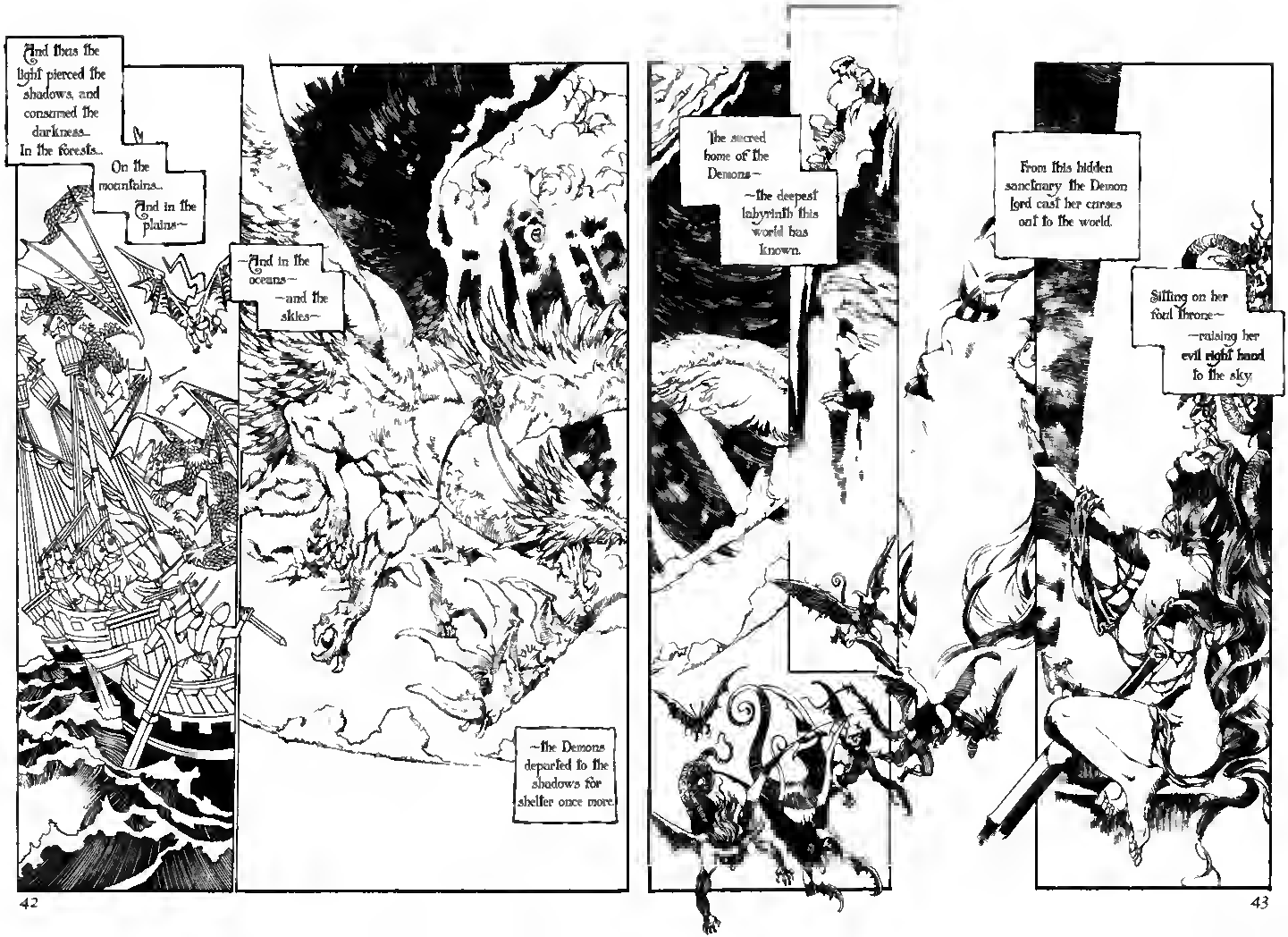
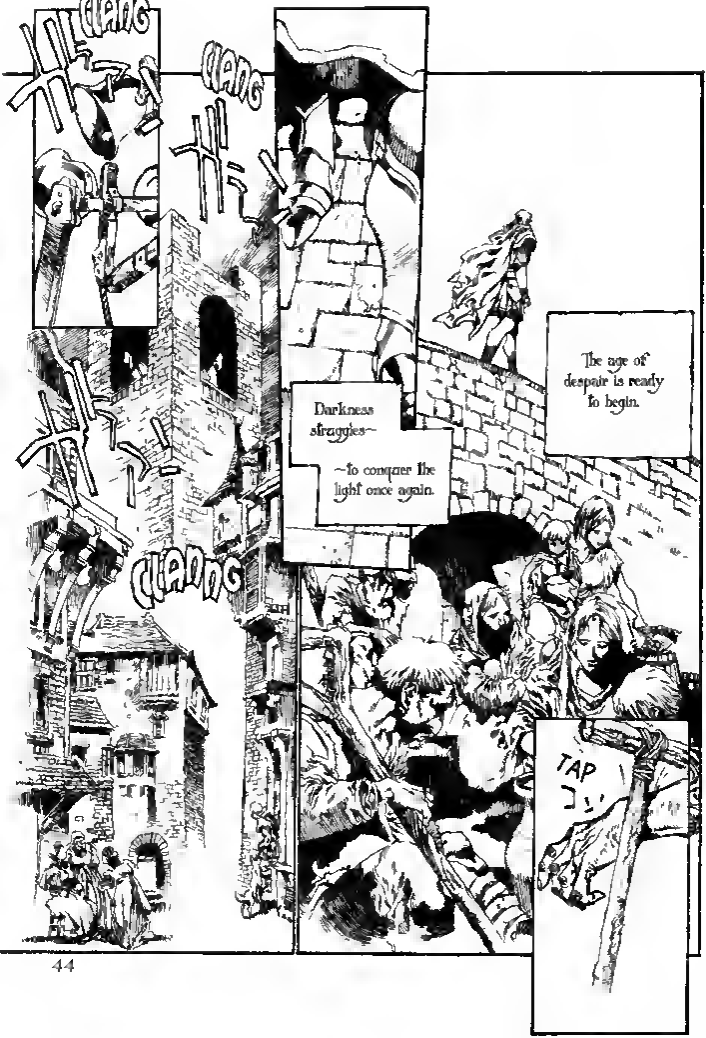
Madness transformed into Demons amidst the shadows.
Grave folly drew the Demons from the darkness.
The world was enveloped by the raven wings of hell.
The wind no longer whistled, and thick clouds spread low across the heavens.
The shadows of men and horses vanished from the land~
~and kingdoms perished in bloody battle.
In the ruins, dusk brings the dance of frigid winds as the balladeers wail their mournful elegies.

The wheel of life is no more, scattered by the wind and shrouded in shadows.
Furious winds have obscured my song of hope, and lamentation stains the evening sky.
Band of beasts, driven by unseen forces, drift across the land.


But light has gathered to baffle the darkness.
Look far and wide, and bark for sounds from the distance.
Pray for the morning sun to pierce the ebony fabric of night.
Amidst the prayers, swords were raised towards the heavens. Silver lights from the blades gathered, to give birth to the sun of hope.
Arise, humans, and grasp the sword in your mighty hands.
Arise, elves, with bow in hand~
~from the depth of your forest.
Arise, dwarves~
~and carry the battleaxe for combat.
A destitute army of peasants gathered what weapons they could find.
As they passed, blossoms and the summer sun returned once more.
The beauty of life dazzled in the light once more.


And thus the light pierced the shadows, and consumed the darkness...
In the forests...
On the mountains...
And in the plains—
—And in the oceans—
—and the skies—
—the Demons departed to the shadows for shelter once more.
The sacred home of the Demons—
—the deepest labyrinth this world has known.
From this hidden sanctuary the Demon Lord cast her curses out to the world.
Sitting on her foul throne—
—raising her evil right hand to the sky.


CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
Darkness struggles—
—to conquer the light once again.
The age of despair is ready to begin.
TAP
コツ

Clatter
!
OH...
OH MY..
SIR FAHN!
FLALIS HAS FORSAKEN THE MONASTERY?

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM THE TEMPLE IN KANON
THE PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES ARE PREPARING FOR ACTION.
SHE ABANDONED THE TROOPS. SHE'S NOT WEARING HER PRIESTESS UNIFORM, AND LEFT WITH A MAN, OF ALL THINGS.
SHE SAILED TOWARD THE ISLAND OF MARMO FROM LOURDE HARBOR WITH A RED-HAIRED WARRIOR.
SUCH DISGRACE!
THIS IS AN ACT OF DEPRAVITY.

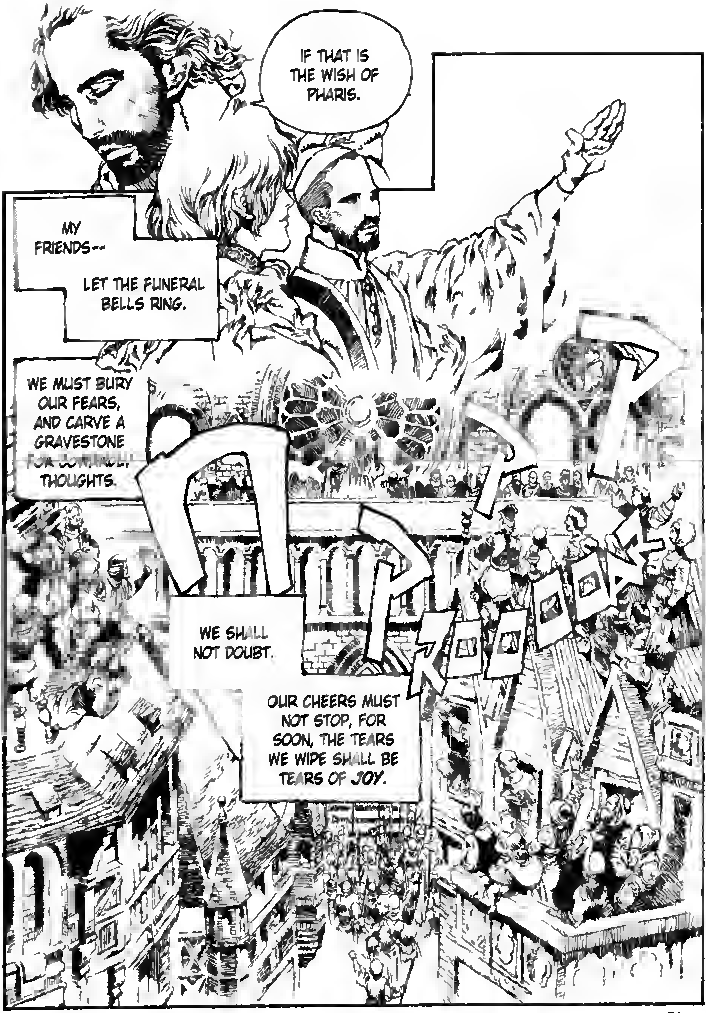
SHE SHOULD BE REMOVED AS THEIR LEADER AND EXPELLED FROM THE TEMPLE.
EXCUSE ME, BUT--
--IS THIS NOT HERESY?
GENARTO?

IT'S A SCANDAL TO THINK THAT ONE CAN BE TRIED IN ABSENTIA.
GENARTO! IN FRONT OF THE BISHOP!
DOESN'T ANYONE REMEMBER!?
18 YEARS AGO, ON A SNOWY MORNING--
--A GIRL, SWADDLED IN RAGS, WAS ABANDONED OUTSIDE THE MONASTERY.
SHE COULD HAVE DIED FROM EXPOSURE--
--BUT FLAVIS SURVIVED.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN HOW EVERYONE FELT THIS WAS A BLESSING FROM PHARIS?
STILL A YOUTH, SHE WAS CHOSEN AS THE LEADER OF THE WARRIOR PRIESTS.
SHE LEARNED, TRAINED AND BELIEVED.

SHE FACED DEMONS IN BATTLE. RISKING HER LIFE, SHE TASTED TERROR AND HOPE.
YET, SHE DIDN'T LOSE FAITH. HER STRONG FAITH FAR OUTSHINES ALL OF OURS.
IF SHE'S A TRAITOR--
--THEN WHY DOES SHE NOT LOSE HER POWERS OF HOLY MAGIC?
HOW COULD SHE HAVE PREVIOUSLY BATTLED AS A WARRIOR, WITH INCREASING DIVINE PROTECTION FROM PHARIS?
A YOUNG PRIESTESS OF MARFA CALLED UPON MARFA TO DESCEND INTO HER DURING THE BATTLE IN THE FOREST OF MIRRORS.
DO YOU THINK FLAUS DID NOT HAVE THE ABILITY, AS WELL?
FLAUS--
--HAS ACCEPTED PHARIS INTO HER BEING LONG LONG AGO.
MAYBE--
--SHE'S ALREADY SEEN PHARIS.

YOUR HOLINESS?
IN THE NAME OF PEACE, JUSTICE AND ORDER--
--RAUMA ADONIA MOIRE DE PHARIS--
SIR FAHN, THE HOLY KNIGHT OF VALIS...
clank
--MOIROS RAAM...
WHEN THE VOLUNTEER ARMY REACHES THE ALLIED FORCES--
--THEY WILL ALL LEAVE ROID THE MORNING AFTER.
I ASK FOR YOUR BLESSING FOR THIS HOLY WAR.
HOLY WAR...

YOUR HOLINESS?
THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED--
--BUT I MUST FIND A SUCCESSOR.
IS ANYBODY PREPARED TO BLESS THE HOLY WAR--
--AS THE HIGHEST BISHOP OF PHARIS?
WHAT ABOUT YOU--
--BROTHER GENARTO?
I KNOW.
BUT!
GENARTO HAS JUST BECOME THE HEAD DEACON.
DURING TIMES LIKE THIS, DEPTH OF FAITH IS WHAT MATTERS.
I'M TIRED.
DON'T EMBARRASS ME ANY FURTHER.


IF THAT IS THE WISH OF PHARIS.
MY FRIENDS--
LET THE FUNERAL BELLS RING.
WE MUST BURY OUR FEARS, AND CARVE A GRAVESTONE
THOUGHTS.
WE SHALL NOT DOUBT.
OUR CHEERS MUST NOT STOP, FOR SOON, THE TEARS WE WIPE SHALL BE TEARS OF JOY.

BOOM!

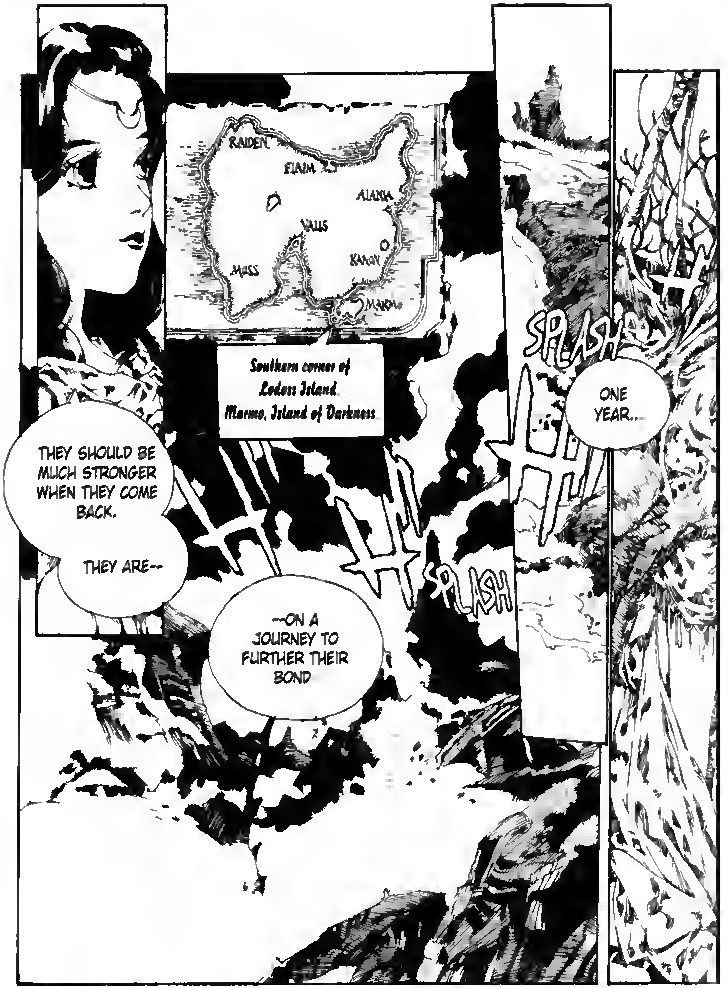
A HUNDRED-MAN ARMY?
YES.
WE HAVE FOUGHT WELL THIS YEAR.
HOWEVER, AS LONG AS THE DEMON LORD IS ALIVE, THEIR MILITARY POWER IS INEXHAUSTIBLE.
WE WILL ENTER THE DWARVES' TUNNELS, PROCEED INTO THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH--
--AND ATTACK THE HOLY LAND OF THE DEMON LORD!
THUD
BUT, IT SEEMS RECKLESS,
WITH ONLY ONE HUNDRED MEN.

I AGREE.
WHAT HAPPENS IF THOSE MEN ARE ANNIHILATED?
HISTORY WILL CHANGE.
JUST AS THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF SORCERY WAS DESTROYED BY THE SAVAGE TRIBES--
--THE AGE OF MEN WILL END, AND THE AGE OF DEMONS WILL BEGIN.
I SUPPOSE LODOSS WILL BECOME SIMILAR TO MARMO?
ALANIA WILL SEND IT'S FINEST ARCHITECT WITH YOUR MEN
YOU WON'T GET LOST IF YOU BASE YOUR PATH ON THE BUILDING DESIGN.
AMBASSADOR.
A LARGE ARMY CANNOT MANEUVER INSIDE THE TUNNELS OR THE LABYRINTH.
THE ARMY WILL GET LOST, FALL INTO TRAPS, AND GET SEPARATED. IT WILL ONLY CAUSE MORE DEATHS.
YOU MUST BE AWARE OF THE SKILL--
--REQUIRED TO BUILD THE MAGNIFICENT BUILDINGS IN ALAN.

THIS IS NO PLACE FOR PERSONAL AMBITIONS.
THIS WAR IS NOT ABOUT POLITICAL GAIN.
THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH IS ONE OF THE GREATEST MYSTICAL WONDERS LEFT BY THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF SORCERY.
BESIDES, I THOUGHT ALAN WAS BUILT BY THE DWARFS, NO?
THE PLACE IS FULL OF MAGICAL TRAPS, SO IT WILL BE DIFFICULT.
AH, IT SEEMS THE SORCERER IS FAMILIAR WITH THE LABYRINTH IN QUESTION
IT'S AS IF HE RELEASED THE DEMON LORD HIMSELF!
THAT'S RIGHT!

NOW--
--THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
IF WE CAN AT LEAST BLOCK THE TUNNEL THAT TRAVERSES THROUGH LODOSS--
--WE COULD PREVENT A SURPRISE ATTACK.
I HAVE MY RESERVATIONS.
TO ALLOW ELVES AND HUMANS TO ENTER MY KINGDOM...
WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE THE DEMONS LIVE THERE, FLAIBE?
THOSE ARE HURTFUL WORDS
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GRACIOUS MAIDEN, NEECE.
WE NEED TO CHOOSE OUR MEN RIGHT AWAY.
ARE WE ALL IN AGREEMENT HERE?
WE'LL MEET HERE AGAIN, TOMORROW NIGHT. I WILL SEND A MESSENGER WITH THE TIME.
Click!!

LADY NEECE--
--YOU SHOULD REST.
YOU'VE ONLY RECENTLY RECOVERED.
OH! EVERYONE STILL TREATS ME LIKE AN INVALID.
I'VE BEEN SWINGING A HOE, HELPING THE VILLAGERS
I WAS MORE SHOCKED TO SEE--
--YOU WAVING YOUR SWORD IN BATTLE, THAN SWINGING A HOE.
DO YOU THINK BELD AND FLALIS WILL JOIN US--
--IN TIME?


RAIDEN
FIAIM
ALASKA
VALUS
KAKON
MASS
MANDA
Southern corner of Ledoss Island. Manna, Island of Darkness
THEY SHOULD BE MUCH STRONGER WHEN THEY COME BACK.
THEY ARE--
--ON A JOURNEY TO FURTHER THEIR BOND
SPLASH
SPLASH
ONE YEAR...

YOU'VE SUFFERED MUCH--
--JUST TO FIND AN OLD, SAVAGE, WITCH?
WE COULDN'T VISIT THE TEMPLE OF FALARIS--
--SO WE DECIDED TO LOOK FOR YOU.
WE HEARD THAT A PERSON FAMILIAR WITH THE LEGEND OF THE DARK GODS LIVED IN THE DARK FOREST.
NEVER MIND.
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
DID YOU BIND AND TORTURE AN OGRE?
I BELIEVE THAT THE TRIBES HERE USED TO WORSHIP KARDIS, THE GODDESS OF DESTRUCTION.

THEY SAY THAT A FEMALE TRIBAL CHIEF WAS A KARDIS PRIESTESS, LONG AGO.
SINCE YOU CAME FROM SHADOW CITY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE CASTLE.
SHE BUILT THAT CASTLE--
--BUT THAT A WAS LONG-- --LONG TIME AGO.
BESIDES--
--THERE IS NO NEED TO REMOVE A CURSE FROM THIS MAN.
YOU WERE WITH HIM THE WHOLE TIME?
THE GODDESS OF MADNESS MUST HAVE LIKED HIM.
I CANNOT FEEL HER INSIDE HIM AT ALL.
YES.

THAT'S WHY HE DIDN'T GO MAD.
THERE YOU HAVE IT.
HE DID NOT WANT TO HURT YOU.
HIS FEELINGS WERE SO STRONG, IT BROKE THE CURSE OF MADNESS
LOOSE-TONGUED OLD WENCH
FLAUS, IF WE'RE DONE, LET'S GO.
THANK YOU--
--WISE WITCH.
AURA OF A KING?
HURRY AND TAKE HIM
TO THE BATTLEGROUND...
YOU CAN FEEL THAT?
THAT MAN HAS THE AURA OF A KING.
I TOLD YOU I'M ONLY AN OLD WITCH.

WHOOSH
RED-HAIRED WARRIOR--
--YOU WILL HAVE LAND NAMED AFTER YOU. AND PEOPLE WILL CALL THAT LAND BY YOUR NAME
HUH?
WAIT, THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE...
A WHITE KNIGHT...?
HISTORY SHALL REMEMBER HIM

I DON'T NEED TO HEAR THIS.
LIFE ISN'T WORTH LIVING IF YOU KNOW THE FUTURE.
LIFE IS INTERESTING---
--BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW THE OUTCOME.

GO AHEAD AND LAUGH.
I THOUGHT I WOULD, TOO.
FAIRO.
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD VOLUNTEER FOR THE 100 MAN ARMY?
BUT--
--I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIGHT. I'LL JUST BE A NUISANCE.
IT WOULDN'T AVENGE RICK'S DEATH, EITHER.
Rick!! Rick!
I'M NOT GONNA MAKE IT.
FAIRO, WILL--
--YOU RETURN THIS TO MARIELLE?
TELL HER TO FIND A GOOD MAN AND HAVE A GOOD LIFE.
DON'T TALK! I'M GONNA HELP YOU NOW.
HA HA. I'M A DISGRACE
TH..THEY GOT ME.
WHEN SHE HAS KIDS, MAKE SURE THEY GET THIS.

THE CHARM REALLY WORKED.
AFTER ALL, THE HOLY KNIGHTS CAME TO HELP US.
JUST BECAUSE I DIED HOLDING THIS--
--DON'T BE BITTER TOWARD THE PHARIS WARRIOR PRIESTESS.
SHE DID EVERYTHING SHE COULD TO HELP US
IT HAPPENED--
--'CAUSE I WAS WEAK.
I'M GONNA BE MUCH STRONGER.
I'M GONNA BE STRONG--
--AND PROTECT THIS VILLAGE, SO THIS KIND OF THING NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN.
IT MAY LOOK BAD, BUT MY DECISION IS TO LIVE.
I AGREE.
I THINK RICK WILL--
--UNDER-STAND.

FLAP
FLAP
CHOSEN WARRIORS--
--THIS IS THE KINGDOM OF STONE
FROM HERE, TO THE THRONE OF THE DEMON LORD IN THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH, WILL BE THE FINAL BATTLEGROUND.
WE WILL HAVE TO FACE NUMEROUS DEMONS AND ARCH-DEMONS.
WE ARE THE LAST HOPE FOR LODOSS.
WE NEED TO SURVIVE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND DEFEAT THE DEMON LORD!
SOME OF US ARE ROYALTY.
SOME ARE FAMED KNIGHTS, AND SOME WERE PEASANTS UNTIL YESTERDAY.

PEOPLE OF PHARIS--
--YOU HAVE RECEIVED BLESSINGS FOR THIS HOLY WAR. WE ARE NOW *FEARLESS* WARRIORS.
PEOPLE OF MARFA--
--YOU RECEIVED HER HONORABLE BLESSING WHEN YOU WITNESSED HER WITH YOUR OWN EYES.
WE HAVE BRIDGED THE GAP OF FAITH--
--AND JOINED FORCES TO ACHIEVE A SINGLE PURPOSE!
SORCERERS OF LARDA, YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE AID OF RIGHTEOUS KNOWLEDGE.
PEOPLE OF MYREE, YOU SHALL RECEIVE UNEQUALED BRAVERY.
FOLLOWERS OF CHAZA, *FORTUNE* IS ON YOUR SIDE
WHOOOOOO!
*PEACE TO LODOSS!!*

THUD
THUD
DEMON CORPSES!?
grumble
SURPRISE ATTACK, FROM THE FRONT!!
FWOOP

BOOM
FAWN!
HUD
FORM A CIRCLE, WITH THE SORCERERS IN THE CENTER.
SORCERERS, CAST A MAGIC WALL.
OH MANA, SOURCE OF ALL MAGIC--
--ERECT AN INVISIBLE SHIELD AGAINST THE FORCE OF THE ENEMY!
FAWN!
A GREATER DEMON!!

I NEED TEN MEN TO REMAIN WITH ME
WE'LL HALT THE ATTACK FROM THE REAR.
MAINTAIN CIRCULAR FORMATION AND ADVANCE!!
Grrroar!!
SWARRR?
OUR TURN!
WINDEENE---
--ELEGANT WATER NYMPHS.
TRANSFORM YOUR GARMENT INTO A WEB OF EXPLOSION--
--ENCIRCLE THEM IN A DANCE OF DEATH!
ROAR
SPLASH
SPLASH

OUR ELFIN MAGIC WILL NOT LAST LONG.
WE NEED TO ATTACK AS SOON AS THE WALL OF WATER COMES DOWN.
bubble
bubble
I UNDERSTAND.
SPLASH
THEY'RE COMING!!
SPLASH

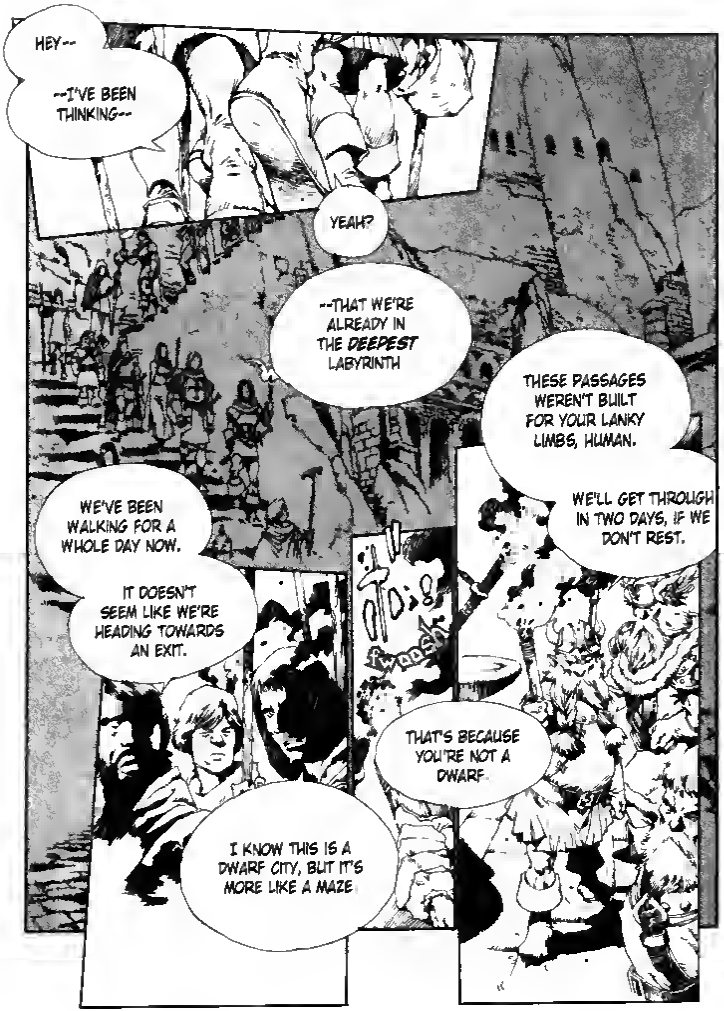
WE WEREN'T TOO LATE
LET'S HOPE
?
KA-ZOOSH

BELD!
FLAUS!?
YOUR APPEARANCE--
--BRINGS BACK--
--MEMORIES..

WE'RE THE LAST ONES TO REMAIN--
--KARLA.
THE AUTHORITY OF KASTOLL, THE KINGDOM OF SORCERY, HAS CRUMBLED TO THE GROUND, SIR SALVAAN.
I BELIEVE I WARNED YOU.
SORCERY IS BEING DESTROYED AT THE HAND OF THE SAVAGES--
--BECAUSE A MAN'S DESIRE LED HIM TO A RECKLESS USE OF ITS POWER.

SOMEDAY, THE POWER OF KASTOLL WILL BE RESURRECTED.
STILL CAN'T ADMIT DEFEAT?
Black Dr
NOW--
--I WILL FULFILL MY FINAL OBLIGATION AS A NOBLE OF KASTOLL.
THE SAVAGES SHALL *NEVER* FORGET THEIR FEAR AND HATRED OF US.

WELCOME--
--BRAVE, SAVAGE WARRIOR.
THIS IS JUST THE ENTRANCE
WE MUST PROCEED.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HUH?!


HEY--
--I'VE BEEN THINKING--
YEAH?
--THAT WE'RE ALREADY IN THE *DEEPEST* LABYRINTH
THESE PASSAGES WEREN'T BUILT FOR YOUR LANKY LIMBS, HUMAN.
WE'LL GET THROUGH IN TWO DAYS, IF WE DON'T REST.
WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR A WHOLE DAY NOW.
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE WE'RE HEADING TOWARDS AN EXIT.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT A DWARF.
I KNOW THIS IS A DWARF CITY, BUT IT'S MORE LIKE A MAZE.

I SURE HOPE SO.
I *DETEST* MARCHING UNDERGROUND LIKE ANTS.
WE'VE COME SO FAR, PLEASE STOP THE BICKERING.
A BATTLE WITH AN ARCH-DEMON AWAITS.
ANIMOSITY WILL ONLY SAP OUR STRENGTH.

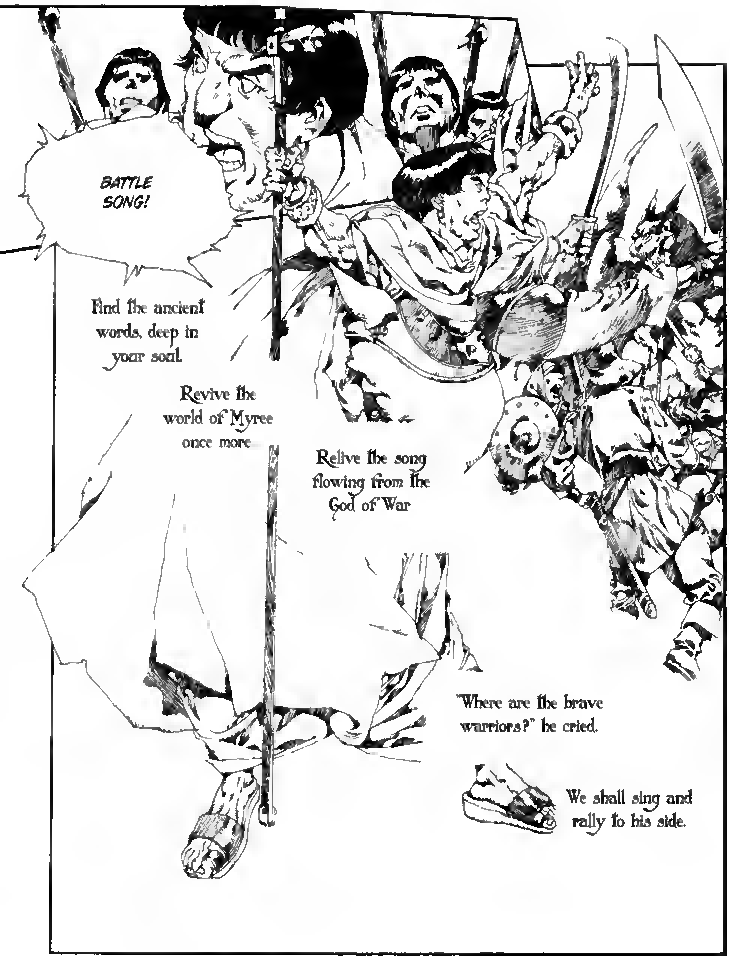
AN ARCH-DEMON.
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ONE?
OF COURSE NOT!
I WOULDN'T BE *ALIVE* IF I DID!
WELL--
--UH...
I HEARD THEY'RE ***POWERFUL.***
THE ARCHDEMON AND I WILL MEET--
--SOON ENOUGH
HE'LL BE SITTING ON ***MY*** THRONE, WAITING
***YOUR*** THRONE?
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE HE WON, AND I ***LOST.***

CLANG
CLANG
IT IS—
—YOUR HIGHNESS!!
YES, IT IS I.
GREETINGS, CAVE SPIRITS.
WE—
—WERE HAVING A MEETING.
KING FLAME—
—ARE YOU RETURNING TO US?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE WANTED TO FURTHER ENLARGE OUR SPLENDID KINGDOM BEFORE YOU RETURNED
WE HAVE CONTINUED TO EXCAVATE.
OUR CAPITAL IS SOLID EVEN DEMONS WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME ATTACKING US

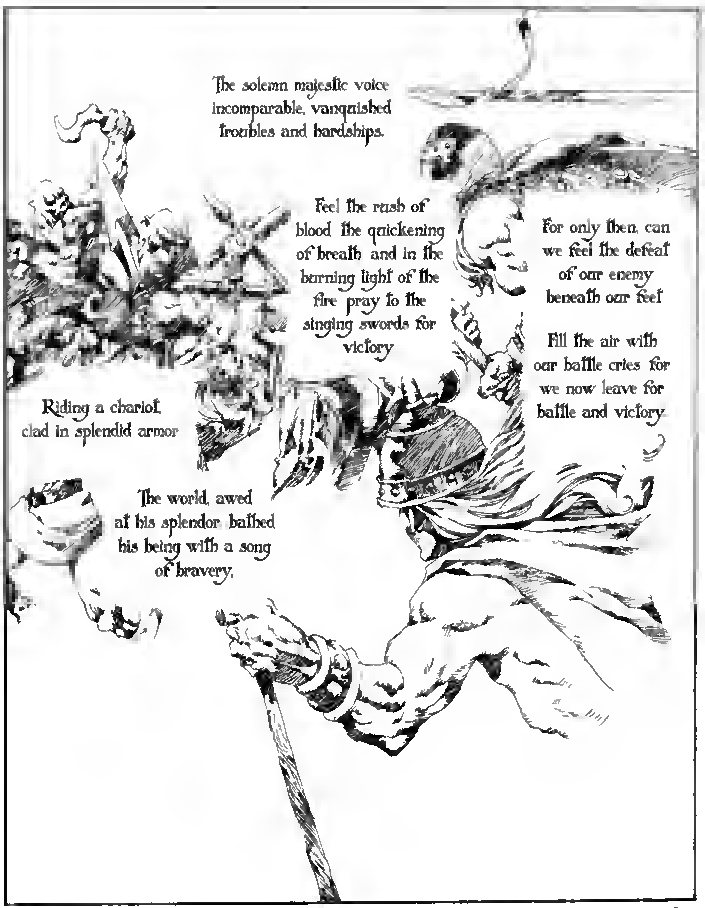
I UNDER-STAND.
BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW.
I KNOW YOU'RE TIRED.
PLEASE REST IN PEACE
CLUNK
BANG!!

FAHN...YOUR ATTITUDE LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED.
YOUR GLOOMY APPEARANCE WON'T HELP ANYBODY.
PLEASE ACCEPT MY SYMPATHIES--
--BUT THE TIME FOR YOUR REVENGE HAS COME.
THE DAMNED DEMON.
WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM SOONER OR LATER.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING YOU WOULD SAY.
HMPH!
WHY DON'T YOU ATTACK, FIRST?

THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY.
THAT'S AN UNDER-STATEMENT.
THEY'RE... COMING.
GAAAHHHHHHH!!!
BREAK BATTLE FORMATION!
SORCERERS, CAST A SPELL FOR COMBAT ON THE NEAREST WARRIOR!
ALL WARRIORS CHARGE!
MYREE PRIESTS!
YES!


BATTLE SONG!
Find the ancient words, deep in your soul.
Revive the world of Myree once more.
Relive the song flowing from the God of War
"Where are the brave warriors?" he cried.
We shall sing and rally to his side.




The solemn majestic voice incomparable, vanquished troubles and hardships.
Feel the rush of blood the quickening of breath and in the burning light of the fire pray to the singing swords for victory
for only then, can we feel the defeat of our enemy beneath our feet
Fill the air with our battle cries for we now leave for battle and victory.
Riding a chariot clad in splendid armor
The world, awed at his splendor bathed his being with a song of bravery.

CRASH
PRIESTS, HEAL THE WOUNDED.
Aaargh!
WOUNDED SOLDIERS! EXHAUSTED SORCERERS, COME TO ME.
NO WAY! ANOTHER ONE'S DOWN.
DON'T FALTER!
IF THEY OVERPOWER US, WE'LL LOSE!!

SLASH
SHUT UP
CRACK

ALL RIGHT!
FOLLOW THAT GIRL!!
WHO IS THAT GIRL?
A SAVAGE WARRIOR?
SHE'S SLAUGHTERING THEM!
YEAH!

I'M BACK.
YOU DO REMEMBER ME, RIGHT?
NOW, GET UP AND BRING YOUR FILTH OVER HERE.
THAT THRONE IS NO PLACE FOR PUTRID DEMONS.
THUD!

BUZZZZZZZZZZZ
BUZZZZZZZZZZZ
BUZZZZZZZZZZZ
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
EVEN IF YOU DRAIN MY BLOOD TO THE LAST DROP--
--YOU WILL NOT CRUSH MY SOUL.

BANG
CLANG
FAWN
I'M ALMOST DONE OVER HERE.
YOU'RE JUST GONNA WATCH?
A KING IS FIGHTING FOR HIS THRONE
I CANNOT INTERFERE.
THAT'S RIGHT
WE THANK YOU--
--HOLY KNIGHT.
I SEE
A STROKE OF THE SWORD WILL DETERMINE THE WINNER
WE DO NOT FIGHT NEEDLESSLY

WE WANT YOU TO SEE--
--THE FURIOUS COMBAT OF THE GREATEST WARRIOR IN OUR KINGDOM.
BASH
SWING

Whoa!
CRASH
SHTTTPP
THUD
THUNK

FAREWELL.
SLICE
thump!
thunk

RUMBLE
THE CEILING..?
IT'S COMING DOWN!!
GO--
--THE DOOR BEHIND THE THRONE LEADS TO A MAIN PATH.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
RUN STRAIGHT. YOU'LL SEE THE EXIT.

RUMBLE
CRASH
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID.
I'M NOT BEING SENTIMENTAL.
I KNOW WHERE I WANT TO DIE
BUT AS A KING, I NEED TO WITNESS MY KINGDOM'S LAST BREATH.

RUMBLE
A KINGDOM, DESTROYED.
WHAT A HORRIBLE SIGHT.
LOOK AT ALL THE RUINS.
GARGOYLES AND EARTH DRAGONS WILL SOON TAKE OVER.
SOON, THE MAJESTIC KINGDOM OF STONE--
--WILL BE KNOWN AS LARGEST GHOST TOWN IN LODOSS

BANG
BANG
BANG
IT'S TIME FOR FOOD!
I'M THE BEST COOK AND WARRIOR IN RAIDEN.
MY COOKING WILL HEAL AN INJURED MAN IN *NO TIME*!
LINE UP, LINE UP!!
IF YOU'RE INJURED, STAY PUT.
FOOD AND HELP WILL COME TO YOU.
TWO MEN FROM EVERY TENT!
AFTER EATING, COME SEE ME. WE NEED GUARDS TO TAKE TURNS AND WATCH THE CAMP.
OKAY
IT'S NOT THAT BAD.
HOW ARE YOUR INJURIES?

WELL, IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT, UH ..
OH, I SEE.
I WILL INFORM LADY NEECE OF YOUR INJURIES.
DON'T YOU WORRY.
I WAS A COURT PHYSICIAN. I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.
I THOUGHT IF LADY NEECE WAS AVAILABLE...
DOES IT HURT HERE?
AHHHHHHH
7 ALREADY...
HOW ARE THINGS, WORT?
TOTAL, 38 MEN INJURED. 8 ARE IN SERIOUS CONDITION.
7 MEN DEAD.
THAT'LL HURT US.
WE WERE ABLE TO DESTROY THE DEMONS IN THE STONE KINGDOM WITH OUR TROOPS.
I SAY WE DID VERY WELL.

COMMANDING OFFICER!
WHAT IS IT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS THEY'RE USING STARVATION TACTICS
THE DEMONS CURSED OUR FOOD SUPPLY.
THE SORCERERS REMOVED THE CURSE, BUT ONLY A THIRD OF THE FOOD REMAINS EDIBLE
CLEVER. VERY CLEVER.
I UNDERSTAND.
PLEASE MAKE THE FOOD LAST UNTIL THEN.
I'LL TRY TO SECURE MORE FOOD BEFORE WE REACH THE DEEP LABYRINTH.
YES SIR.

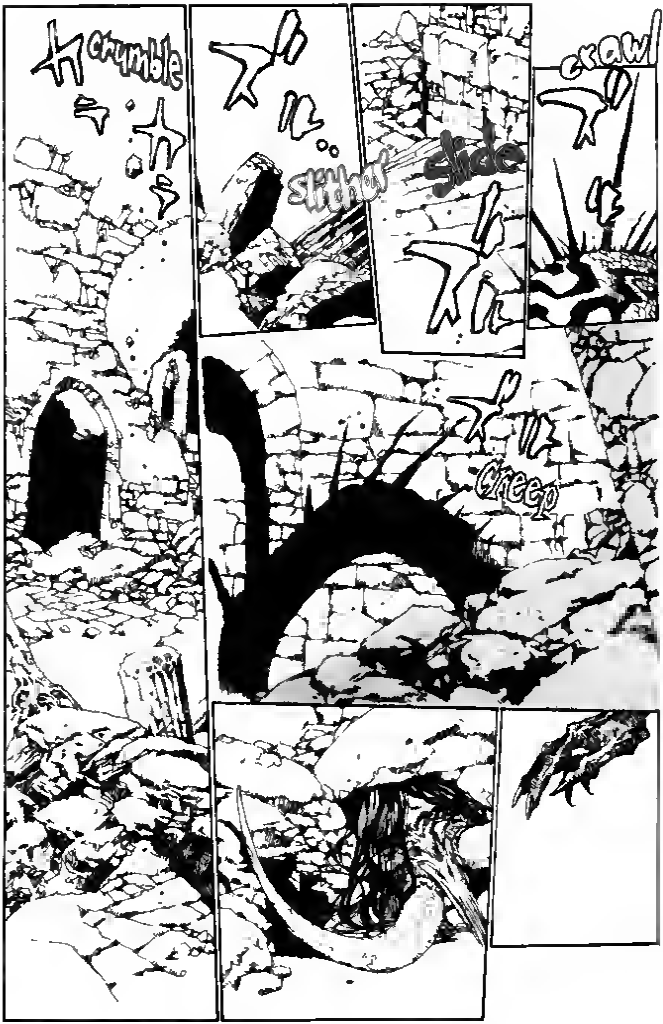
THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF CURSES.
I SHOULD MAKE MY ROUNDS TO SEE--
--IF PERSONAL BELONGINGS ARE ALSO CURSED.
THAT WOULD HELP.
PLEASE.
DID YOU SEE?
WHAT?
THOSE TWO.
DID YOU WATCH THEM FIGHT?
YEAH--
--THE SAVAGES FROM MARMO.
SHE'S A PHARIS WARRIOR PRIESTESS.
WHAT?
THE YOUNG WOMAN.
SHE'S THE LEADER OF THE PHARIS WARRIOR PRIESTS
CAN'T BE!
THAT GIRL!?

LADY FLAUS.
YES?
I WANTED TO ASK YOU A QUESTION.
I REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE STILL SERVING THE ACOLYTE OF ADAN.
THE PEOPLE OF ADAN WERE VERY PROUD.
WE HEARD YOU WERE IN THE FRONT LINE, IN THE BATTLE AGAINST THE DEMONS.
WE FELT THAT PHARIS SENT YOU, A TRUE WARRIOR--
--AS A SYMBOL OF THIS HOLY WAR.
WHY DON'T YOU WEAR YOUR SACRED UNIFORM?

YOUR SAVAGE GARB ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR PHARIS.
NO, I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT.
BUT, WHAT ABOUT YOU, SIR?
THE UNIFORM DOES NOT PROVE MY FAITH.
I DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR BATTLE.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
PERSONALLY, I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST THE DEMONS.
AS I--
--FOUGHT DEMONS AS MY ENEMY--
--I STARTED TO WONDER HOW THEY WERE DIFFERENT FROM US.
I WOULD COEXIST WITH THEM IF I DIDN'T GET MONEY FOR THEIR HEADS
JUST LIKE IN MARMO.

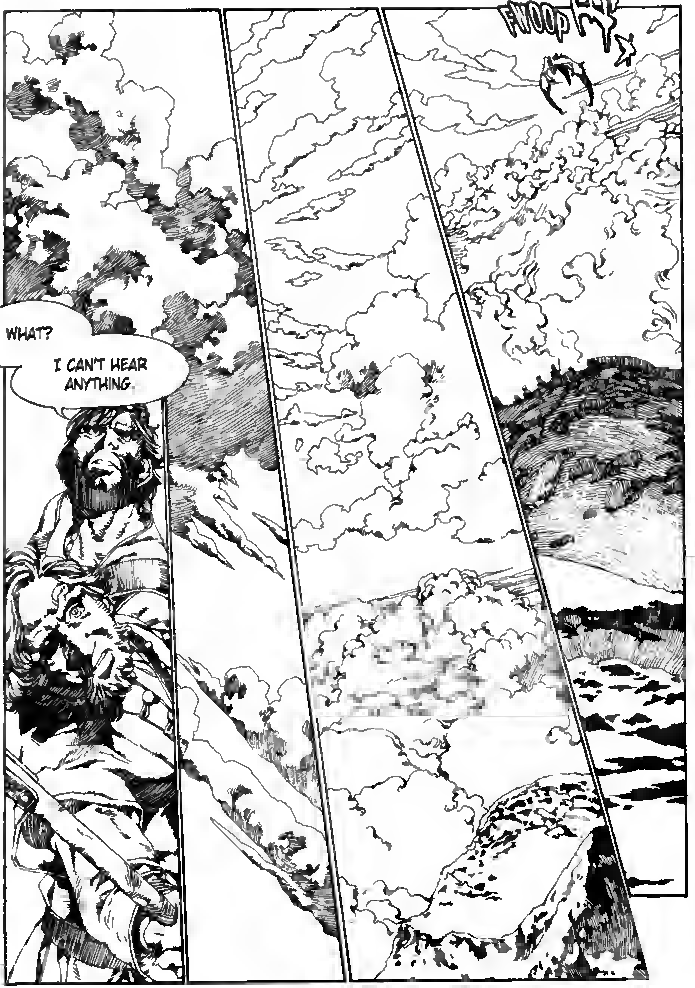
WE DON'T KNOW THEIR ORIGINS.
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY'RE BORN.
IN THE GREAT WAR OF THE GODS, THEY SIDED WITH THE GODS OF DARKNESS.
THEY ARE PHYSICALLY VERY DIFFERENT. THEY ARE VILE CREATURES, WITH STRANGE BLOOD FLOWING IN THEIR VEINS.
BUT ARE HUMANS AND DEMONS *THAT DIFFERENT?*
BLINDED BY GREED, HUMANS HAVE ATTACKED THE DWARVES FOR THEIR TREASURES.
WE HAVE ANTAGONIZED THE ELVES IN OUR DESIRE TO MONOPOLIZE THE BLESSINGS OF THE GOLDEN TREES.
RAMPANT DESTRUCTION MAY BE THE DEMONS' OBJECTIVE
BUT THEY AREN'T MUCH DIFFERENT FROM HUMANS DRIVEN BY ***GREED*** AND ***AMBITION***
THE PRESENT DEMONS WERE UNLEASHED BY AMBITIOUS HUMANS.
IF THINKING THIS WAY GOES AGAINST PHARIS' LIKING--
--THEN I AM A ***TRAITOR.***
THEN ***WHY*** DO YOU--
--BATTLE THE DEMONS?

FOR A LONG TIME--
--I FELT LIKE I WAS BATTLING A DARK SOUL WITHIN MYSELF.
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE RIGHT, FLAUS.
BALANCE CAN ONLY BE ATTAINED WHEN THERE IS A COMMON BOND BETWEEN THE TWO HALVES.
LIKE THE BLOOD STAINED SWORD AND THE SORCERY OF DOMINATION
LIKE HUMANS AND DEMONS.


crumble
slither
slide
crawl
creep

hhhirl

tremble tremble
BEFORE YOU ASK, I'LL TELL YOU NOW.
I'VE GOT...
tremble
THE SHAKES, RIGHT?
ME TOO.
ALL OF US
WHO WOULDN'T BE AFRAID?
WE'RE NEXT TO THE DEMON LORD'S LAIR.
WE'LL CAMP OUT HERE TONIGHT.
HUH?
A DRAGON FLUTE.
IT WILL BE HARD TO REST IN FRONT OF THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH.
BUT RESTING WILL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE, ONCE WE'RE INSIDE


WHAT?
I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING.
FLOOP

FWOOP
FWOOP
WHOOSH

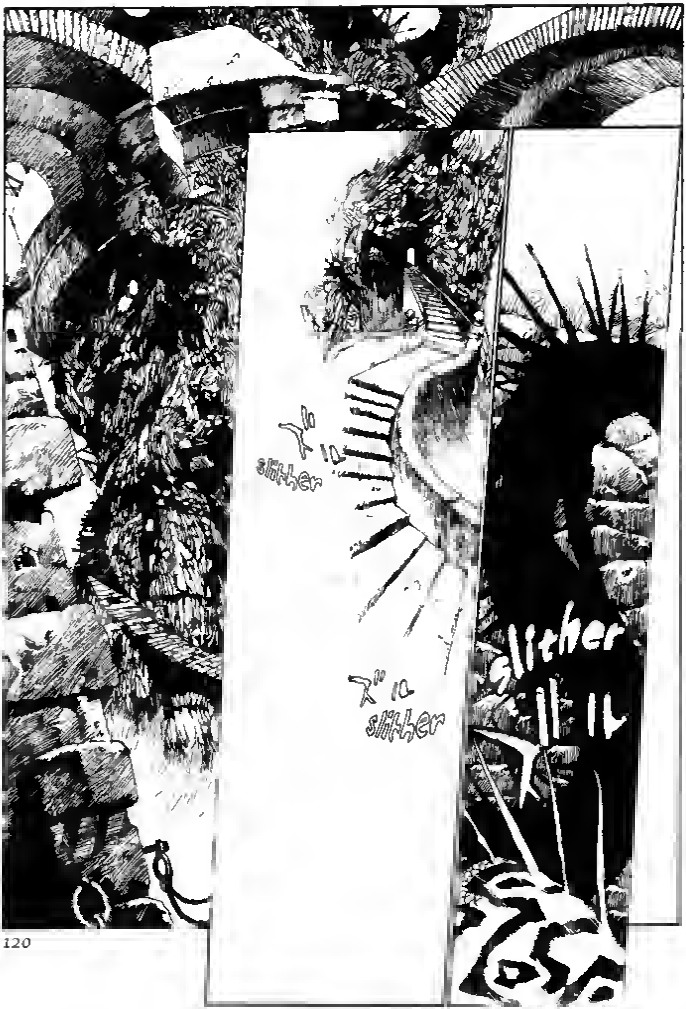
GRRROWWRR!
DUKE OF MYCEN!

NO NEED FOR FORMALITIES, SIR FAHN.
TODAY, I'M ONLY LEADING THE RESERVE ARMY.
OH YES, I BROUGHT A VISITOR HERE.
WORT--
--I BEGGED HIM TO BRING ME HERE.
ENDINKA...
I WANTED TO SEE ALL THE BRAVE MEN WITH MY OWN EYES
I WANTED TO SEE, SO THAT THIS DAY WILL LIVE ON IN SONG.

WHAT?
DID YOU CHANGE?
TO PAY MY RESPECTS TO THE DUKE.
IT WOULD BE RUDE TO GREET HIM IN MY BATTLE GARB.
HUH, YOU'RE STILL WORLDLY.
YOU WANT TO SHOW MANNERS TOWARD ROYALTY.
THAT'S AN IDEA--
--IF I SURVIVE THIS
BELO, BEING A FIERCE WARRIOR IS NO EXCUSE FOR DISCOURTESY.
AS A KING, YOU'LL NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE.
I'LL DECIDE IF I WANT TO BE KING.
THINKING OF MARRYING ME FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT?

LOOK.
HE'S AMAZING.
UH-HUH
I'VE NEVER SEEN AN ANCIENT DRAGON ALIVE, ONLY IN PAINTINGS.
A MEMORY TO TAKE TO THE GRAVE.
BAM
BONK
A REPORT
I INCLUDED A LETTER FOR THE HOLY KING OF VALIS.
I'M HAPPY TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, SIR FAHN.
THERE WILL BE MORE WHEN WE RETURN
I'LL BE WAITING TO HEAR STORIES OF BRAVERY FROM ALL OF YOU.
I HAD TO PROMISE I'D FEEL UNEASY, OTHERWISE
WE'VE NOT COME ACROSS ANY MORE DEMONS SINCE LEAVING THE STONE KINGDOM.
BUT NOW, THE PRESSURE OF THE COMING BATTLE IS CRUSHING US.
EVERYONE IS FIGHTING HIS FEARS
THAT'S TRUE FOR ALL OF US.

FOR THE TIME BEING, THE ATTACKS HAVE DIED DOWN--
--BUT THE DEMONIC ATTACKS STILL CONTINUE ACROSS LODOSS
EVERYONE IS BECOMING VERY WEARY.
THEY'RE AFRAID THAT SOMEONE'S GOING TO SAY, "I GIVE UP."
ENJOY THIS MOMENT.
THE GOLDEN SCALED KING OF THE DRAGONS AND THE DRAGON KNIGHTS OF MOSS ARE WATCHING OVER YOU TONIGHT.
THEY WILL TAKE CARE OF ANY CREEPING ARCH-DEMONS IN A BLINK OF AN EYE.


slither
slither
slither

huff.
huff.
huff.
huff.
huff.
THUNK

huff.
puff.
huff.
thump
huff
huff
huff

sizzle

AAAHHHHHH!

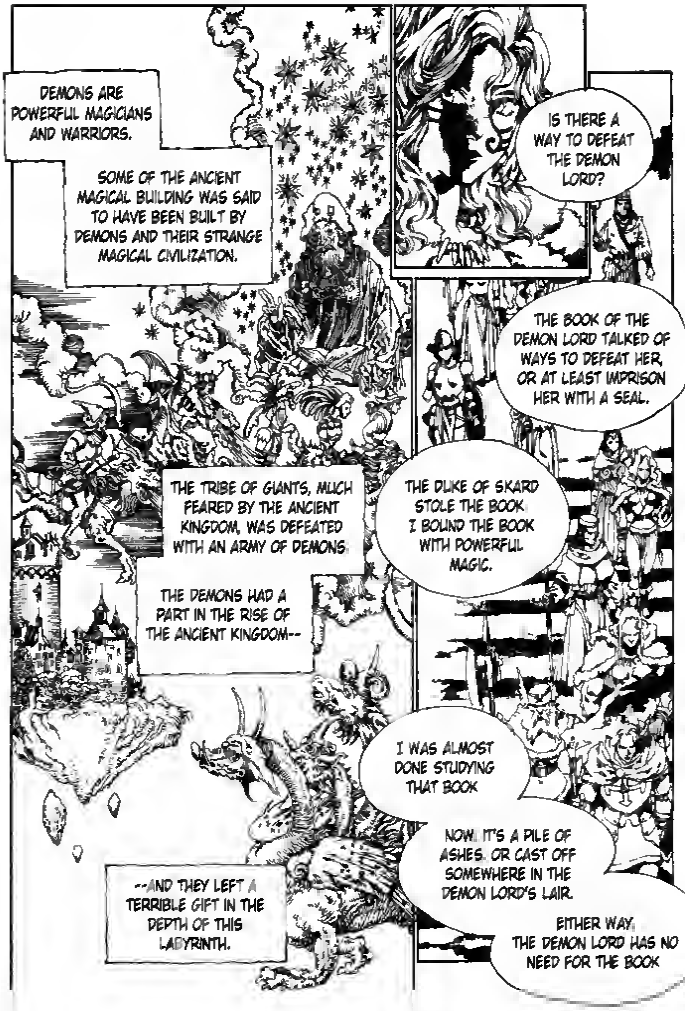
WE'LL BE HEADING BACK.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE DEMONS BACK HOME.
I WANT TO PROMISE THAT YOU'LL RETURN TO A HOMELAND WITHOUT DEMONS.
WE'LL PROMISE--
--TO DESTROY THE DEMON LORD.

I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK.
THEY'RE LEAVING.
WE SHOULD GET GOING.
GET IT OVER WITH, AND GO HOME
FWOOP
FWOOP

I KNOW THE LABYRINTH HAS NEITHER WINE NOR COMELY WOMEN

THIS IS THE DEEPEST LABYRINTH...
IT'S LIKE A CITY--
--OR THE REMAINS OF A FORTRESS.
IT SERVES BOTH PURPOSES.
FROM THE OUTSIDE, IT'S A FORTRESS THAT PROTECTS AGAINST INTRUDERS.
FROM THE INSIDE, IT'S A CITY TO KEEP DEMONS CAPTIVE IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD.
PHYSICAL WORLD?
YOU MEAN DEMONS DON'T REALLY EXIST?
THEY HAVE PHYSICAL BODIES HERE.
THAT'S WHY WE CAN DEFEAT THEM WITH WEAPONS.

AZNADEER, THE GREAT SORCERER, DISCOVERED HELL, AND LEARNED TO CONJURE AND ENSLAVE DEMONS.
HE BUILT THIS LABYRINTH DURING THE TIME OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF KASTOLL
THE DEMON'S BIRTHPLACE, HELL--
--IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL OR THE MAGICAL WORLD.
HOWEVER... A GREAT MAN WOULD NEITHER CONJURE NOR USE DEMONS.
I USED THAT WORD "GREAT" BECAUSE THE DEMON LORD WAS UNDER HIS COMMAND.
OTHERWISE, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL HELL.


DEMONS ARE POWERFUL MAGICIANS AND WARRIORS.
SOME OF THE ANCIENT MAGICAL BUILDING WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN BUILT BY DEMONS AND THEIR STRANGE MAGICAL CIVILIZATION.
THE TRIBE OF GIANTS, MUCH FEARED BY THE ANCIENT KINGDOM, WAS DEFEATED WITH AN ARMY OF DEMONS.
THE DEMONS HAD A PART IN THE RISE OF THE ANCIENT KINGDOM--
--AND THEY LEFT A TERRIBLE GIFT IN THE DEPTH OF THIS LABYRINTH.
IS THERE A WAY TO DEFEAT THE DEMON LORD?
THE BOOK OF THE DEMON LORD TALKED OF WAYS TO DEFEAT HER, OR AT LEAST IMPRISON HER WITH A SEAL.
THE DUKE OF SKARD STOLE THE BOOK. I BOUND THE BOOK WITH POWERFUL MAGIC.
I WAS ALMOST DONE STUDYING THAT BOOK
NOW, IT'S A PILE OF ASHES. OR CAST OFF SOMEWHERE IN THE DEMON LORD'S LAIR.
EITHER WAY, THE DEMON LORD HAS NO NEED FOR THE BOOK

SHAKE
BESIDES, THIS IS NOT THE PLACE TO TALK ABOUT SUCH MATTERS
WHO KNOWS WHAT'S LISTENING TO US?
WHAT!?
HEY...?
OLAF ...?
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
CRACK

LOURDE!
DON'T PANIC. WE'LL KILL EACH OTHER BY MISTAKE.
BE CAREFUL! IT'S THE INVISIBLE STALKERS!!
DAMN IT! WHERE IS IT?
THERE!

THROW
THUNP!

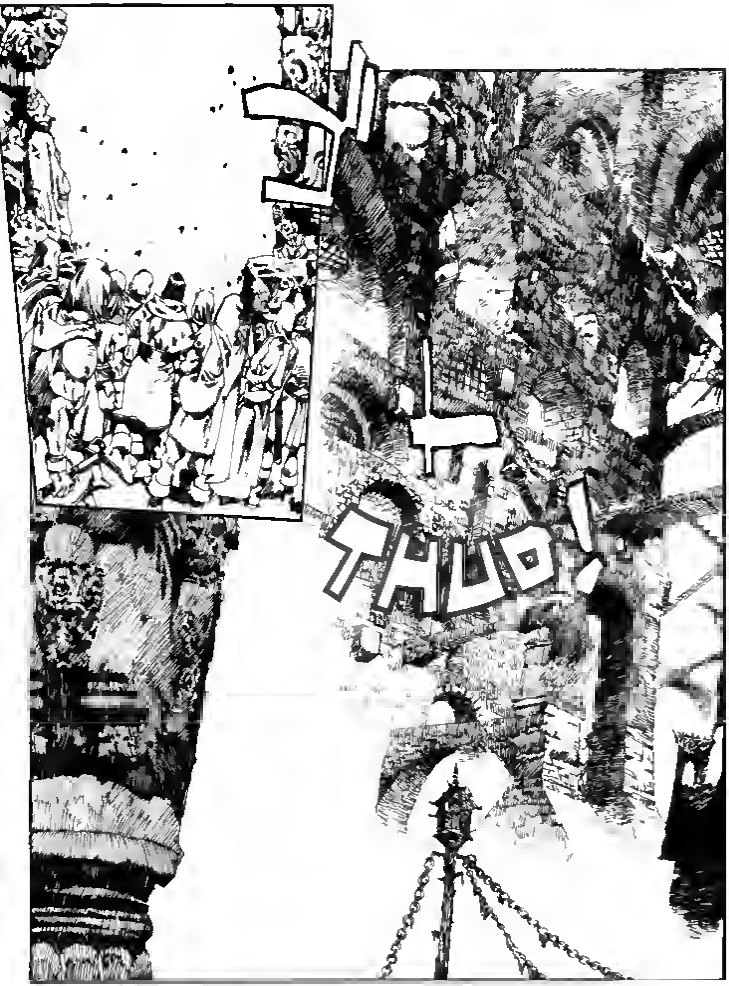
MY FATHER AND I WERE EXPLORING THE RUINS OF A MAGICIAN'S MANOR WHEN WE SAW ONE.
I SAW HIM ONLY AFTER MY FATHER'S BLOOD SPLATTERED ON HIM.
IS IT A DEMON?
NO, IT'S PROBABLY GUARDING THE LABYRINTH.
WE NEED TO WATCH FOR MORE THAN DEMONS IN THIS PLACE.
WHAT SHALL WE DO--
--WITH THEIR BODIES?
LOURDE WORSHIPPED LARDA.
OLAF WORSHIPPED MARFA
WHICH GODS DID THEY WORSHIP?
PRAY FOR THEM, PRIESTS.

WE NEED TO ADVANCE--
--AS SOON AS THE PRAYERS ARE FINISHED.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE BODIES HERE.
WE CAN ONLY MAKE SURE THAT THE NECROMANCERS DON'T GET TO THEM
IF I FALL IN BATTLE, I EXPECT THE SAME TREATMENT. THIS IS *WAR*

A DEAD END.
CAN'T BE. NOT THIS SOON.
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY TO THE OTHER SIDE
COME OVER HERE!
THERE'S A STRANGE SYMBOL HERE.
THIS MIGHT
DON'T TOUCH IT!

FWOOSH
crackle
IT'S A FIRE-STARTING SPELL.

LET A THIEF OR SORCERER INSPECT ANYTHING BEFORE YOU TOUCH IT.
THERE ARE MAGICAL SYMBOLS THAT'LL THROW YOU TOWARDS A HORDE OF DEMONS
Rumble
Rumble
Rumble


THUD!

IT...
...OPENED.

THE LOWEST FLOOR OF THE CENTRAL TOWER IS THE DEEPEST LOCATION IN LODOSS.
THAT PLACE IS NO LONGER OUR WORLD.
BUT IF WE DON'T ADVANCE, WE WON'T SEE THE DEMON LORD.
YOU KNOW A LOT, UNTAMED SORCERER.
SO WHY DON'T WE GO?
TAKE A LOOK.
THAT EMBLEM!
ARE THEY SKARD SOLDIERS?

SWOOSH
!
THUD
SO EVERYTHING PAST THIS BRIDGE IS AN ILLUSION.
WE COULDN'T FIND ANY OTHER PATHS UNTIL WE CAME HERE.
THE DUKE OF SKARD FOUND A WAY TO CROSS OVER.
SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO, RIGHT?

YOU'RE SO DIM.
IT WAS A JOKE..
WHY DON'T YOU USE YOUR MAGIC?
BELD, WE CAN'T DO THAT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
LET'S THROW 2 OR 3 PEOPLE ACROSS AND SEE.
IF YOU CROSS OVER FIRST, THAT WOULD TAKE CARE OF THIS PROBLEM.
I CAN, BUT IT WILL DIMINISH MY STRENGTH.
WOULD YOU THINK ME COLD IF I SAID I DON'T WANT TO USE MY POWERS HERE?
WHAT'S WRONG?
I DON'T THINK--
--BELD IS JOKING NOW
FINE!
I'LL DO IT.
IF HE WERE SERIOUS, HE WOULD HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING.
CLANK

WHAT IS IT--
--FLAWS?

I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING'S BEEN WATCHING US FOR A WHILE
tok
tap

tok
aack!
WHOOSH

CLANG
CRASH!
A BLACK GRIFFON!
IT ATTACKED THE FOREST OF MIRRORS.
THAT'S THE DEMON LORD'S BEAST!

ARCHERS TO THE FRONT!
FIRE!
WHUMP!
Ta-tak!
Tak!

THE ARROWS ARE BOUNCING OFF?!
WORT!
DO WE NEED THE SACRED WEAPON FOR *THIS* ONE, TOO?
Skreeeee!

OH MANA,
THE SOURCE OF
ALL MAGIC.
BLESS MY STAFF
WITH THE FORCE
OF LIGHTNING,
LIKE THE CRY OF THE
GIANTS, STRIKE DOWN
THE ONE I CHOOSE.
ATANA--
--ATORA--
--EM--
LEAP
--VAIGAS!

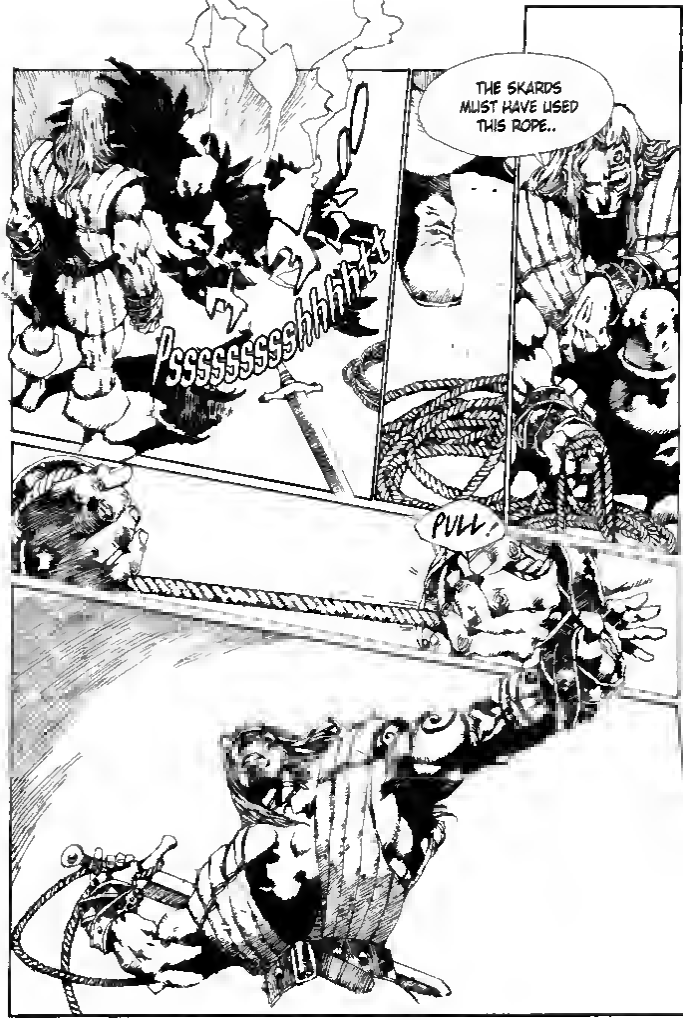
GRRRRRAGH!
THUD!
SSCHLUPP!

SLAM!

RIP!

SQUAWK!
TEAR

RIP
WHOOSH


THE SKARDS MUST HAVE USED THIS ROPE..
Pssssssssshhhhh!
PULL!

SWOOSH
WE CAN CROSS OVER, THANKS TO THIS.
FOLLOW MY FOOTSTEPS UP TO THE SWORD.
AFTER THAT, USE THE ROPE AS YOUR GUIDE
SLAM
ARCHERS!!
USING THE SWORD AS YOUR MARKER, SHOOT ROPES TO THE OTHER SIDE
MAKE SURE THE LADIES CROSS OVER BEFORE US

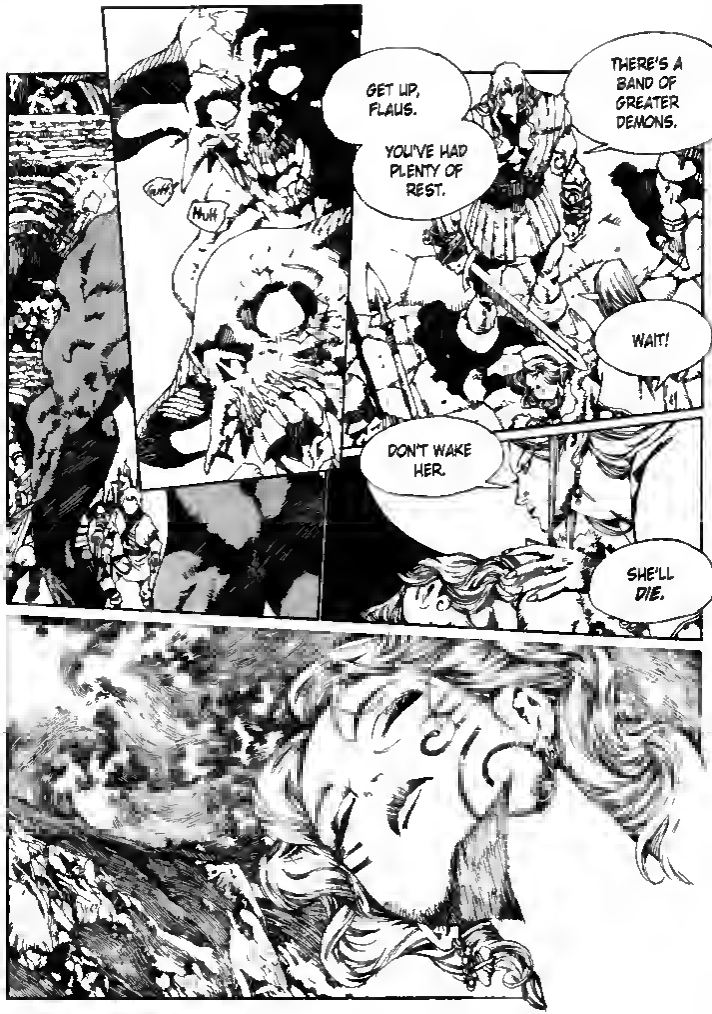
WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF FOOD--
--AND WATER.
DIDN'T WE COME TO FIGHT?
BUT, WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANY DEMONS.
HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN INSIDE HERE?
ONCE FOOD RUNS OUT, MAYBE--
--WE CAN EAT THE FLESH OF THE DEMONS.
SOMEWHERE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH.
WE'RE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LABYRINTH.
SHE'S HERE... SOMEWHERE.
ANSWER--
--SORCERER.
EVERYONE, GET YOUR BELONGINGS TOGETHER.
THERE ARE NO DEMONS HERE.

IS THAT SO?
WE CAN'T SEE THE SUN, MOON, OR STARS.
WEARINESS HAS SATURATED OUR BODY AND SOUL.
DO THOSE DEMONS--
--REALLY HAVE A LORD?
DOES THE DEMON LORD TRULY EXIST?
DON'T GET AGITATED THAT'S WHAT THE DEMONS WANT.
ARE YOU TRYING TO HELP THEM?
--DEMONS MAKE THE SWITCH?
WHEN DID--
WHAT...
Stab

POW!
THUD

URAGH!!
Ugh!
ARGH!
UNGH...

SLITHER
HUUH


GET UP, FLAUS.
YOU'VE HAD PLENTY OF REST.
THERE'S A BAND OF GREATER DEMONS.
HUH
WAIT!
DON'T WAKE HER.
SHE'LL DIE.

IS IT MY TIME TO SEE THE GRIM REAPER?

I AM NOT THE REAPER.
I AM A STORMRIDER.
BUT TO MANY MEN, I AM ONE AND THE SAME
I WON'T LET YOU KILL HIM.
WHY IS THAT, PHARIS MAIDEN?
THAT WOULD GO AGAINST YOUR GOD'S TEACHINGS.
IF HE LIVES, HIS PATH WILL BE STREWN WITH BLOODY BODIES.
SO YOU THINK LODOSS SHOULD BE LEFT TO ROT?
LIVE IN FEAR OF DEMONS? HAND THE COUNTRY TO TYRANNICAL KINGS AND THEIR POWER STRUGGLES?
I SEE.
SO YOU THINK THE KING OF VALIS AND DUKE OF MYCEN ARE TYRANTS?
NO!
BUT--
--SOMETHING BIGGER WILL ARISE AFTER THE WAR OF THE DEMONS.

SO YOU THINK HE SHOULD BE KING?
I CAN *HELP* HIM BECOME A VIRTUOUS KING!
WHAT A JOKE!
WHAT YOU HOLD IN YOUR HEART IS NOT THE HOPE THAT HE WILL BECOME AN IDEAL KING
HE IS STAINED WITH THE BLOOD OF DEMONS AND MEN. HE CANNOT WALK THE PATH OF LIGHT.
IT IS *LOVE*--
--MY PHARIS MAIDEN.
DRIPPING IN THE GORE OF BEASTS AND DEMONS, YOU SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS OF CARNAGE.
YET, YOU STILL TRY TO REMAIN A WOMAN.
TAKE A LOOK--

--AT YOUR
APPEARANCE.

NOW--
--WHICH IS YOUR TRUE SELF?
BEAUTIFUL, FLAUS.
THE DRESS SUITS YOU.

ZEO!
ZEO, GET OVER HERE!
CALL ME TEACHER, NOT FATHER!
Y. YES FATHER!
I'M OUT OF INK I NEED MORE!
ZERICOS. FRANADOS. EN. TOUS. REGINALD THE THIRD!!
YES!

FATHER!
TEACHER!
IT'S NOT SAFE HERE.
RAAR!
I, BEORICOS FRANADOS EN. TOUS. REGINALD THE SECOND--
--AS A RECORDER OF DWARF HISTORY, AM RECORDING THE THRILL OF FIGHTING IN THE GREATEST BATTLE OF THE CENTURY!
CHOP
IMBECILE!
WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT OF RECORDING THE BATTLE FROM A SAFE PLACE?
THE FRONT LINE!
TO THE FRONT LINE!!

HOW DARE YOU--
--MAKE--
--FUN OF ME?
FLAME

Crumble
CRASH
Crumble
OH--
--THE BALL HAS STARTED.
BUT--

FLAUS...
--I CAN'T--
--GO TO THE CASTLE DRESSED LIKE *THIS*.
YOU'LL DANCE WITH ME *HERE*.

I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A WARRIOR PRIEST.
BROTHER!
IT WAS A DREAM.
BROTHER GENARTO!

GENARTO, PLEASE SCOLD HER.
SHE FELL OFF A TREE IN THE CENTER COURTYARD TODAY.
NOW DID YOU GET HURT, FLAUS?
YOU KNOW...WITH ALL THAT ENERGY, YOU COULD BECOME A WARRIOR-PRIEST.
YOU SHOULD AIM TO BE THE LEADER.
SURE!
I'LL GROW OLD, KNOWING ONLY THE BATTLEFIELD AND THE PHARIS TEMPLE
THAT IS TO BE MY LIFE
WHAT IF I WAS LEFT IN FRONT OF A CASTLE, INSTEAD OF A TEMPLE?
THERE YOU ARE BROTHER GENARTO?
IS IT TRUE? WAS I AN ORPHAN, LEFT IN FRONT OF THE TEMPLE?
YOU'RE NOT REALLY MY BLOOD BROTHER, ARE YOU?

FLAUS.
IF ANYONE ASKS FOR YOUR FATHER'S NAME--
--TELL HIM YOU'RE THE CHILD OF PHARIS.
YOUR FAMILY IS--
--EVERYONE THAT SERVES THIS TEMPLE.
THAT'S A LIE.
I'M ONLY A HUMAN.
FEAR GRIPS MY HEART WHEN I FIGHT DEMONS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO COME HERE.
AN AMULET OF PHARIS.
THE VILLAGERS, THEIR TOWN BESIEGED BY DEMONS, DIED HOLDING THIS AMULET.
WHY DO WE NEED THESE THINGS!? WHEN YOU LEARNED THAT DEMONS WERE SEEN IN THE VILLAGE--
--YOU COULD HAVE AT LEAST SENT ME!
WILL PHARIS HELP ME WHEN I CONFRONT THE DEMON LORD?
IF YOU BELIEVE IN PHARIS, ARE YOU PROTECTED FROM THE SLAUGHTER?

A PHARIS WARRIOR PRIEST CANNOT LOSE TO A DEMON.
AND, NO WARRIOR PRIEST HAS EVER FOUGHT A DEMON
THEN LET ME BE THE FIRST!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANTED?
YOU SHOULD SHOW BELD. HE'LL BE SHOCKED BY YOUR BEAUTY.
YOU LOOK WONDERFUL!
JUST AS I THOUGHT.
LOOK
YOU CAPTURED THE HEART OF THE RED-HAIRED SAVAGE.
YOU KNOW HIS WARM BODY--
--HIS FURIOUS BREATH.
CAN YOU REMAIN CALM IN THE FACE OF HIS UNTAMED PASSION?
AREN'T I PRETTY?
IS HE THE KING OF LODOSS AND HER PEOPLE?

BELD HAS KNOWN PLENTY OF WOMEN. I'M ONE OF MANY.
IT HURTS ME TO THINK ABOUT THAT.
SO WHY HAS HE STAYED BY MY SIDE FOR SO LONG?
DID I EVER THINK ABOUT IT?
MAYBE, HE LOVES ME TOO.
HAS THAT NOT CROSSED MY MIND?
WEREN'T WE HAPPY--
--AS MATES?
DIDN'T I THINK SO?

SLICE
THAT'S FOR PLAYING WITH MY HEART
YOU DEMONS--
--ARE VILE MONSTERS.
Thunk

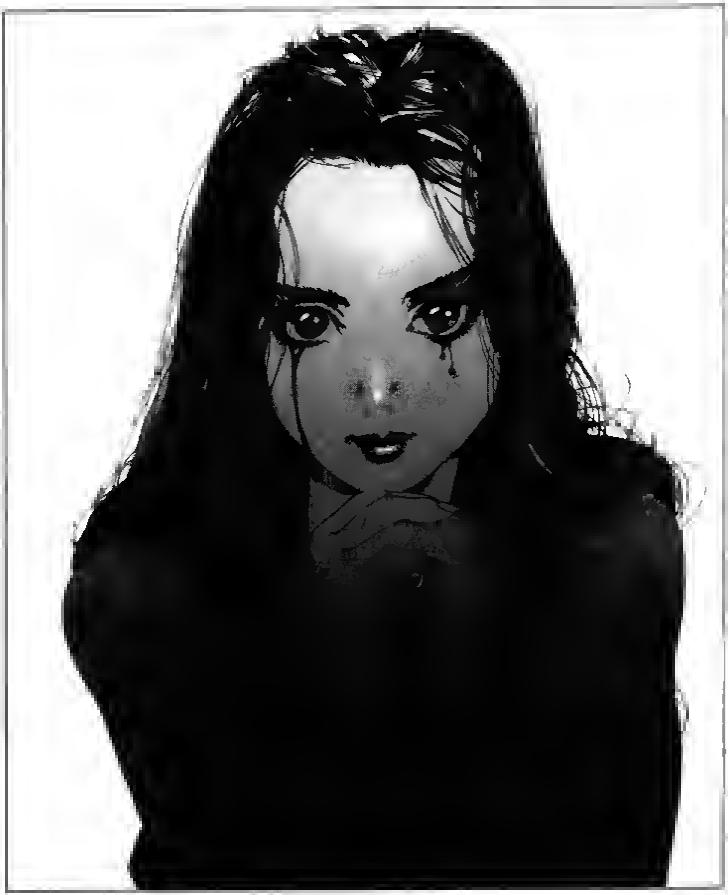
BELD!
THE DOOR.
IT'S OPEN!

WORT!
FAHN!
GO, WE'LL STAY AND FIGHT
PLEASE, YOU ALL HAVE TO GO!!
LET'S GO, NEECE.
YOU TOO, MASKED SORCERESS.

THE DEMON LORD...

HOW STRANGE.
MY MISSION WAS TO SEE YOU
BUT--
--I DIDN'T FEEL THE FERVOR, UNTIL NOW.
DON'T TRY TO READ HER MIND--
--NEECE.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO REMAIN AS YOURSELF.
EVERYONE, GET READY.
WE NEED TO ELEVATE OUR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH FOR THIS.
WILL YOU HELP ME?

CAN WE KILL HER?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU'RE BRUTALLY HONEST.
SHE'S REMAINED *UNDEFEATED* FOR CENTURIES.
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE THE MAGIC SQUARE OF CONTAINMENT WAS COMPLETE
OUR ONLY OPTION IS TO TRY.
YOU NEVER CARED FOR DESPERATE MEASURES.
I *STILL* DON'T.
LET'S BEGIN.



The womb of curses--
--from this unholy place springs the genesis of all destruction

Cloaked in the facade of a raven haired maiden--
--seemingly composed of flesh and blood
In the base of the labyrinth veiled in darkness--
--the throne belongs to the Demon Lord
THE ARROW OF LIGHT THAT BINDS THE EARTH AND SKY--
--RACES THROUGH THE AIR LIKE THE FANGS OF A BEAST.
Ping
!?

Do not doubt for it is the Demon Lord
ATTACK WITH FURY--
--COUNTLESS THUNDERBOLTS!!
OH MANA, SOURCE OF ALL MAGIC, SOURCE OF ALL MIRACLES--
--IMPRISON AND CONTAIN THE ONE I CHOOSE
Her eyes are stained with darkness
Gloom colors her soul
!

NO EFFECT!
???
Her powers match those of the Dark Gods
DON'T GIVE UP SO QUICKLY
THIS WON'T BE EASY BATTLE. WE'LL HAVE TO USE GREATER MAGIC.
Uuuh!
BOOM!

THUD
CRASH
SMASH
COUGH!
COUGH!
THE POWER OF THE SACRED WEAPONS!
FAHN IS STAVING OFF THE BLOW.
WE NEED TO RAISE A MAGIC SHIELD AROUND THE OTHERS.
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND BEING MY SHIELD.
NOT AT ALL.
Tak!

WHOOSH
CLANG
A MAGIC SHIELD
THAT'LL BE DIFFICULT!
STOP, FAHN!

HOLD IT!
Blurp!
SCREECH!
DRIP
DEMONS?!
THEY'RE BORN FROM HER BLOOD!
THAT'S WHY THE DEMON ARMY IS INEXHAUSTIBLE.
SHE'S MORE THAN AN AVERAGE DEMON.
SHE IS AKIN TO--
--A GOD.

ALL WHO ARE NOT BLESSED--
--IN THE NAME OF GOD--
--RETURN TO THE HELL--
--FROM WHICH YOU CAME!
drip
drip
SLITHER
POOF

GROWL
THIS IS ENDLESS!
WORT! CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING!?
DON'T--
--INJURE HER.
THEN HOW CAN WE DEFEAT--
--A FOE THAT WE CAN'T ALLOW TO BLEED?
dart

THE COMPASSIONATE GODDESS OF CREATION--
--BLESS US, OH MARFA.
ALIVE, IN THE EARTH, SHOW US YOUR POWER IN THIS TIME OF NEED.
TEND THE TO THE WOUNDED FLESH OF THE INJURED.

AAAAAH!
WHOOSH
CLANG
THUD
DAMN!
THAT PISSED HER OFF
EVERYONE!
DON'T LET HER BLADE INJURE YOU. IT WILL BREAK YOUR SPIRIT.
WHAT DO WE DO NOW!?
IF WE CAN'T HURT HER, THIS WILL NEVER END

WE MUST USE GREATER MAGIC.
NEECE--
--AND THE SORCERESS FROM THE ANCIENT KINGDOM...
THE ANCIENT KINGDOM?
YOU KNOW, AND YET YOU STILL ASK FOR MY HELP?
I KNOW YOU ARE NOT MY ENEMY HERE.
RIGHT NOW, I NEED THE POWER OF YOUR PURE MAGIC.
OH MANA, SOURCE OF ALL MAGIC--
--SOURCE OF ALL MIRACLES--
..WILL YOU HELP ME WITH YOUR MAGIC?
I WANT TO USE THE SPELL OF DESTRUCTION
--THE SOURCE OF ALL STRUCTURE AND SHAPE IN THIS WORLD--

--COUNTLESS COLORS MERGE IN THE WORLD OF KARMA FOR CREATION OF BEINGS.
FOR CREATION OF POWER.
...!
WITHOUT THE FLOW OF YOUR POWER, ANCIENT ROCKS--
--ONCE SOLID, TURN INTO VAPOR.
NOW, OH MANA--
--RETURN TO THE CHAOS OF THE START OF TIME--
--AND THE ONE I CHOOSE SHALL TURN TO DUST.
DAMN
WE'D BETTER MOVE!

DID THAT DO IT?

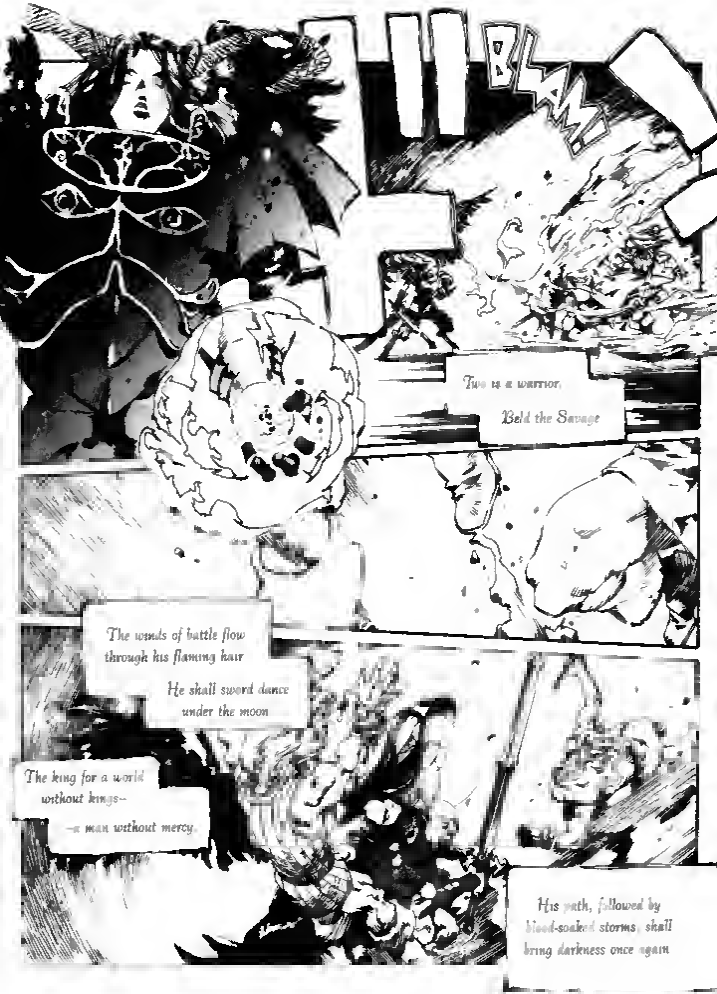
DESTROY!!
GrOOOgh!
OOM
THUD

GWORT!
THIS IS PITIFUL.
I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD NEED TO ASK FOR MAGICAL TEACHINGS
THE SPELL OF DESTRUCTION DIDN'T WORK.
THERE'S *NOTHING* MORE I CAN DO.
DON'T SPEAK!
YOU ARE A LEGACY OF KASTOLL YOU ARE THE *LAST* WITNESS TO THE MAGICAL CIVILIZATION THAT CONJURED AND ENSLAVED THE DEMONS.
PLEASE TEACH ME

WHY CAN'T SHE BE DESTROYED?
THE SWORD...
HOW CAN SHE BE STANDING HOLDING HER SWORD?
DEMONS ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR AMAZING VITALITY. SHE CAN BE THEIR LORD BECAUSE SHE IS IMMORTAL.
STRIKE THROUGH HER HEART?
THE DEMON LORD'S SWORD!?

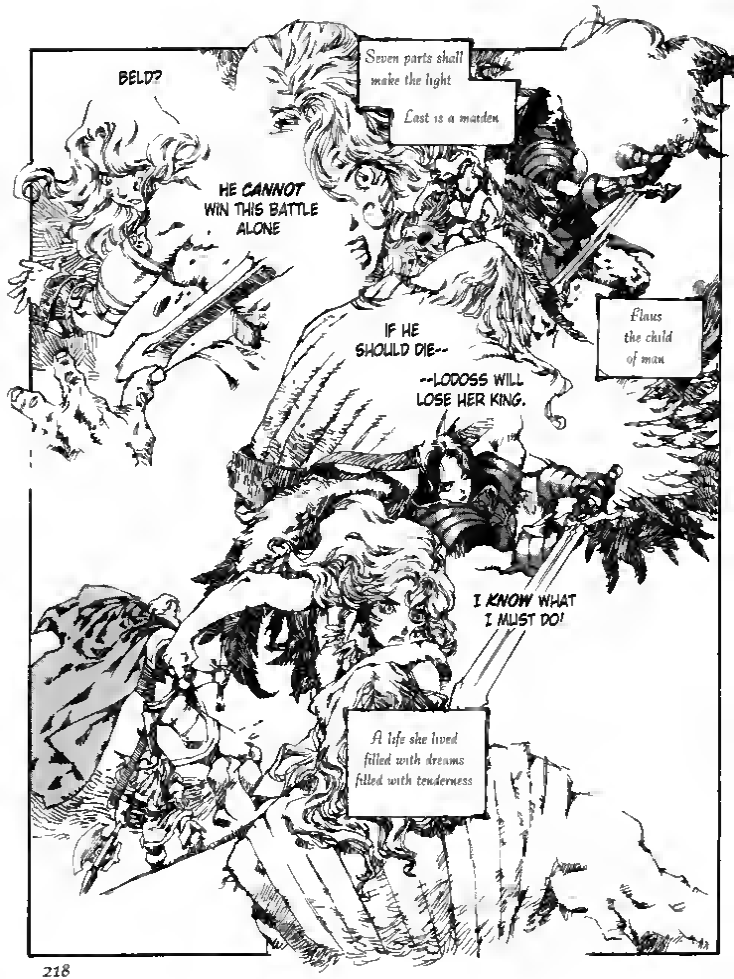
DURING THE WAR OF THE GODS, SHE JOINED FORCES WITH THE DARK GODS. SHE WAS DEFEATED, BUT SURVIVED.
THE DEMON LORD IS DIFFERENT.
YOU CAN DESTROY HER PHYSICAL FORM, BUT HER IMMORTAL SOUL WILL CONTINUE TO REINCARNATE.
DEMONS CONTINUE TO ATTACK, EVEN WHEN MORTALLY WOUNDED, BUT THEY WILL DIE.
UNLESS YOU STRIKE HER THROUGH HER HEART
WE MUST WORK AS A TEAM.
HOW DO WE TAKE HER SWORD AWAY WITHOUT GETTING KILLED?
clank

PHARIS WOULD GRIEVE--
--TO DISCOVER THAT YOU'RE STARTING TO THINK LIKE ME.
Seven souls combined to form the light
One is a Holy Knight Fahn the Four
BEHIND ME!
His silver light no Demon blood could ever stain
RUN!
He appeared as a knight from the flames of Heaven
The Demon Lord the most wretched of monsters--
--her blade of darkness will sing.. to halt the piercing light
FLASH

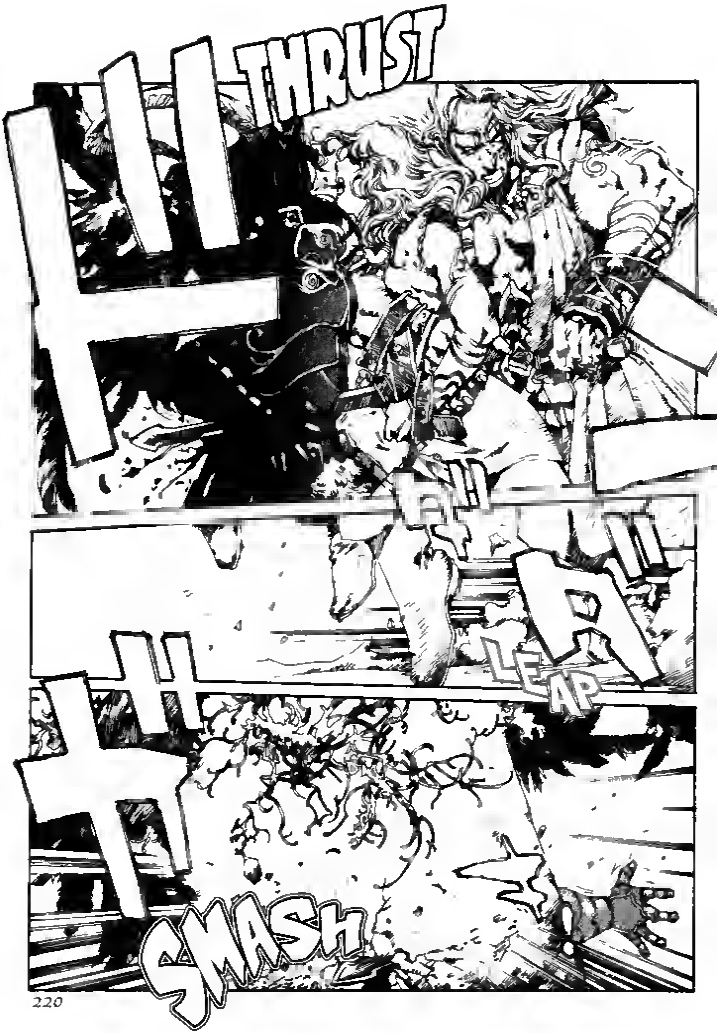

BLAM!!
Two is a warrior.
Bold the Savage
The winds of battle flow through his flaming hair
He shall sword dance under the moon
The king for a world without kings--
--a man without mercy.
His path, followed by blood-soaked storms, shall bring darkness once again

Three is a Dwarf,–
–Flaube the final ruler of the Kingdom of Stone
I HURT HER!
NEECE, PRAYER FOR HEALING!
Now and forever time shall never dull his battleaxe of revenge
Four is a priestess
Lady Neece Marfa's beloved daughter
A SHAME
I'VE BECOME A BURDEN TO THE WOMEN
Blameless one child of man the embodiment of Marfa
Her gracious hands shall be the blades to banish evil
Five is a sorcerer–
Wort the sage enlightened wanderer forever untamed

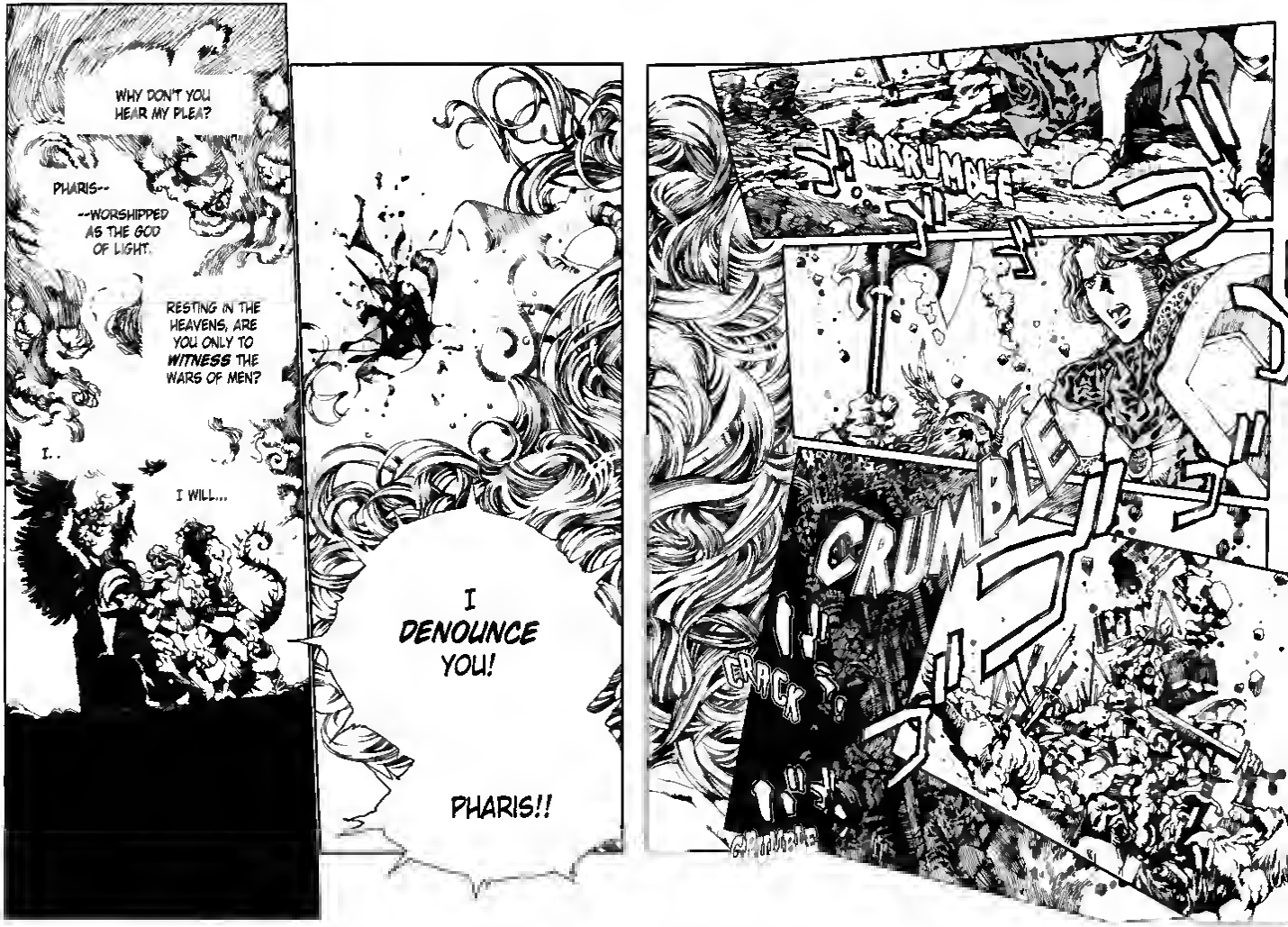
Clang
IF I SURVIVE, I'LL HAVE TO RELINQUISH MY STANDING AS A SAGE.
NOW--
--I MUST GO HELP THEM.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A BURDEN--
--THEN CEASE YOUR SELF-PITY AND FIGHT.
Six a warrior sorceress her name unknown she who grieves over this land
The ancient spells shall not reveal the thoughts of those afar
Her name a secret hidden behind a mask Yet her deeds will be exalted forever more
LOST


BELD?
Seven parts shall make the light
Last is a maiden
HE CANNOT WIN THIS BATTLE ALONE
Flaus the child of man
IF HE SHOULD DIE--
--LODOSS WILL LOSE HER KING.
I KNOW WHAT I MUST DO!
A life she lived filled with dreams filled with tenderness

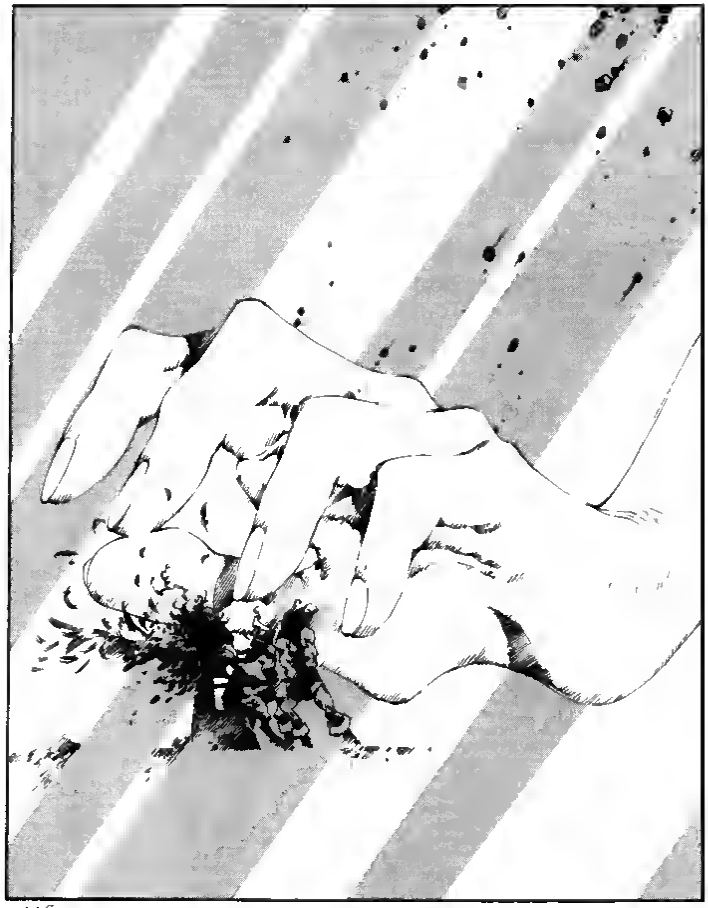
GRAB
UP
THRU
F...F--
--FINISH HER!
KICK
WELL DONE--
--MY LOVE.


THRUST
LEAP
SMASH

CRACK
Aiyeeeeeee!
ZU thrust ZU
NO!
IF THEY CONTINUE...
PHARIS, WHERE ARE YOU?


WHY DON'T YOU HEAR MY PLEA?
PHARIS--
--WORSHIPPED AS THE GOD OF LIGHT.
RESTING IN THE HEAVENS, ARE YOU ONLY TO WITNESS THE WARS OF MEN?
I..
I WILL...
I DENOUNCE YOU!
PHARIS!!
RRRUMBL
CRUMBLE
CRACK

SPLIT
RUMBLE
ROAR
RUMBLE
CRASH
CRUMBLE
CRACKLE



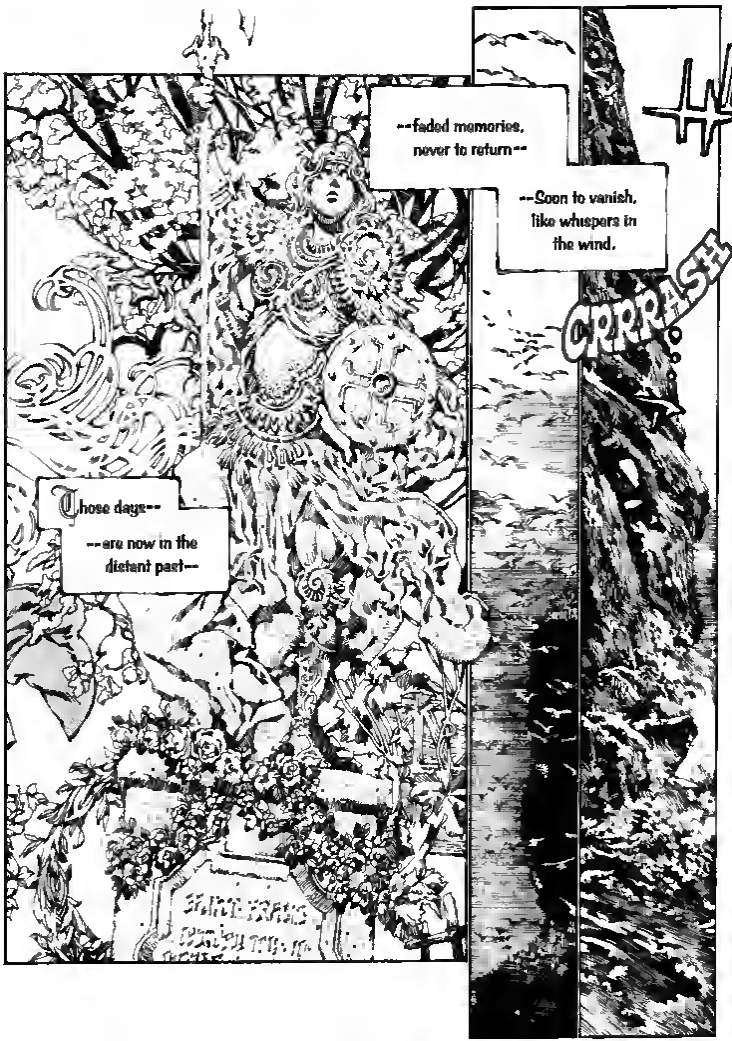
I NEED TO SPEAK OF MY IDEALS--
--AND OF MY DREAM, YET UNFULFILLED.
I WAS SNEERED AT, RIDICULED, AND TOLD THAT A WORLD FILLED WITH LIGHT WAS NOTHING BUT A REVERIE.
ASKED IF I TRULY BELIEVED IN SUCH A WORLD--

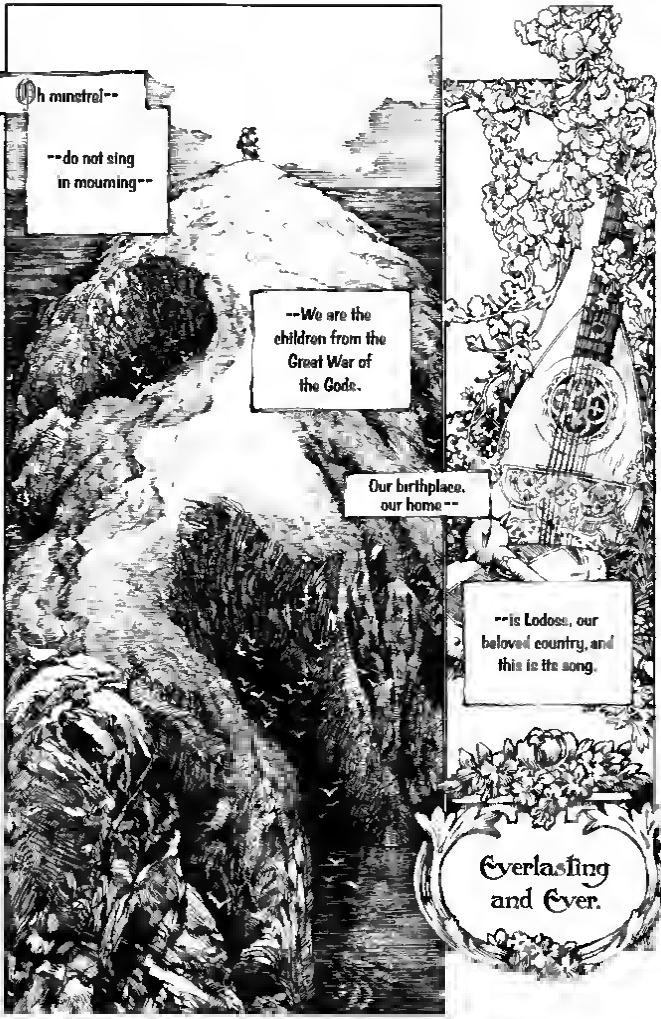
--I REPLIED, WHAT IS A WORLD WITHOUT DREAMERS, WITHOUT THOSE WHO SEEK TRUE BEAUTY AND JOY?
I CAN SPEAK OF THIS BECAUSE I HAVE FALLEN TO EARTH, AND MY SOUL IS NOW FULL OF MISERY
TO DREAM OF A BEAUTIFUL WORLD...
...TO HELP BUILD A VIRTUOUS WORLD--
--TO DREAM, AND BELIEVE, TOGETHER.
RIGHT, BELD?
FAWN?

WOOHOO!
BUMP!
OH--
--I'M SO SORRY!
I'M OKAY. HOW ABOUT YOU?
OH--
--ARE YOU TRAVELERS?
FROM THE FOREST OF MIRRORS?
NO--
--WHY?
TODAY'S THE FESTIVAL OF ST. FLAUS.
DID YOU KNOW? ST. FLAUS AND THE SIX HEROES STAYED AT OUR VILLAGE.
WE'RE HAVING A PLAY--
--ABOUT THE WAR AGAINST THE DEMONS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY A DEMON, BUT SNOOTY ABBY WAS CHOSEN TO PLAY ST. FLAUS, SO I DECIDED TO JOIN.

THE OLD RIFT BETWEEN DWARFS AND PEOPLE HAS BEEN *HEALED*.
WE ALL MADE PEACE.
WHY DID YOU THINK I WAS FROM THE FOREST OF MIRRORS?
SINCE THEN, THE FESTIVAL OF THE RETURN OF THE GOLDEN TREES IS KNOWN AS THE ST. FLAUS FESTIVAL.
NEIGHBORING DWARVES AND ELVES FROM THE FOREST OF MIRRORS WILL JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION.
ELVES AND HUMANS?
UNBELIEVABLE...
SHALL WE ACCEPT THEIR INVITATION, *DEEDLIT*?
I'D LIKE TO SEE THIS *MYSELF*.
YOU THINK? YOU'RE TRAVELING WITH A HANDSOME HUMAN COMPANION.
IF YOU'RE NOT IN A HURRY, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US AND RELAX TONIGHT?
WE *WELCOME* ANY ELF THAT IS FOND OF HUMANS.
I'D LIKE TO SEE ELVES AND HUMANS LAUGH TOGETHER.

WHAT IS IT?
A HIGH ELF SONG...
A BEAUTIFUL VOICE.
ME TOO--
--PARN.
AN ELF TAUGHT AUNT MARIELLE SOME SONGS.
SHE EVEN SPOKE TO ST. FLAUS AND THE SIX HEROES!


--faded memories, never to return--
--Soon to vanish, like whispers in the wind.
GRRRASH...
Those days--
--are now in the distant past--


Oh minstrel--
--do not sing in mourning--
--We are the children from the Great War of the Gods.
Our birthplace, our home--
--is Lodoss, our beloved country, and this is its song.
Everlasting and Ever.

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RECORD OF LODOSS WAR
The LADY of PHARIS 2
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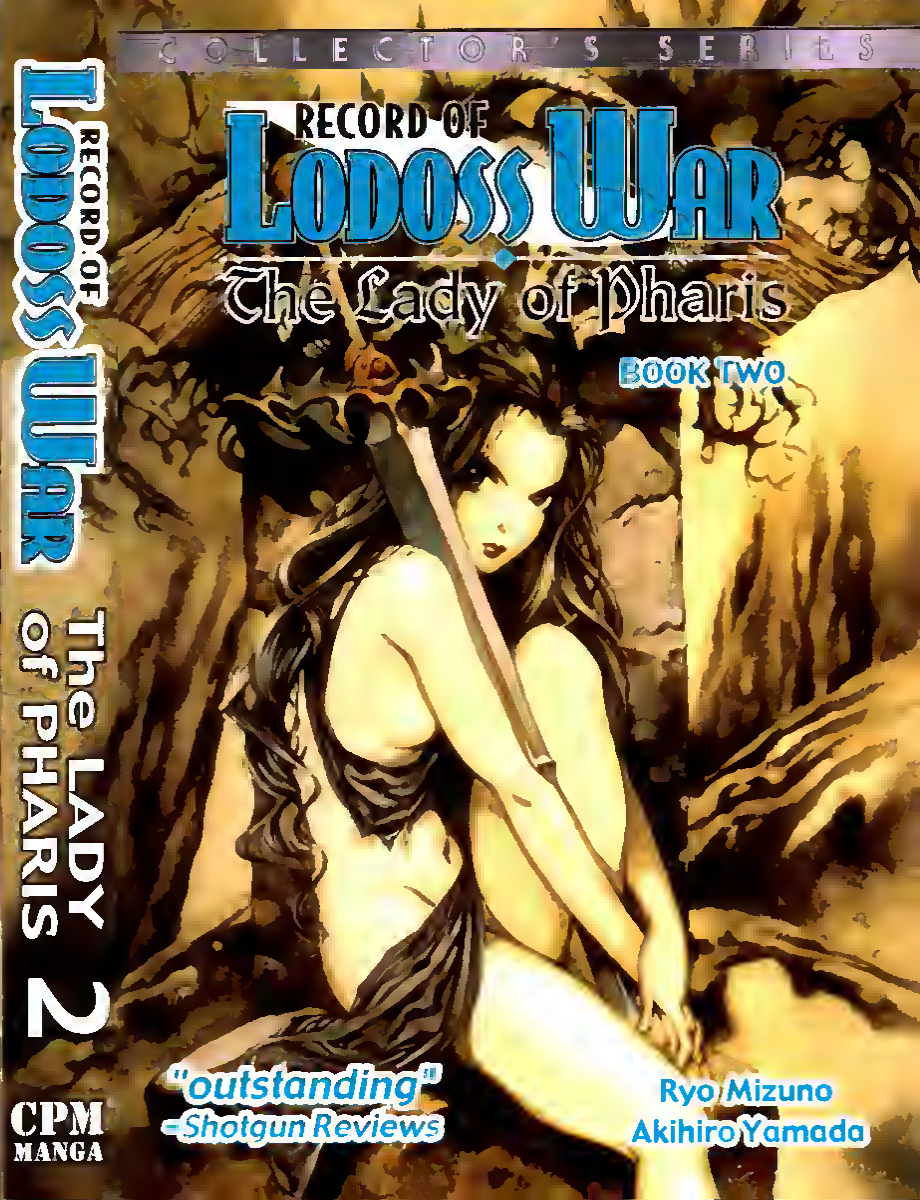
COLLECTOR'S SERIES

RECORD OF LODOSS WAR

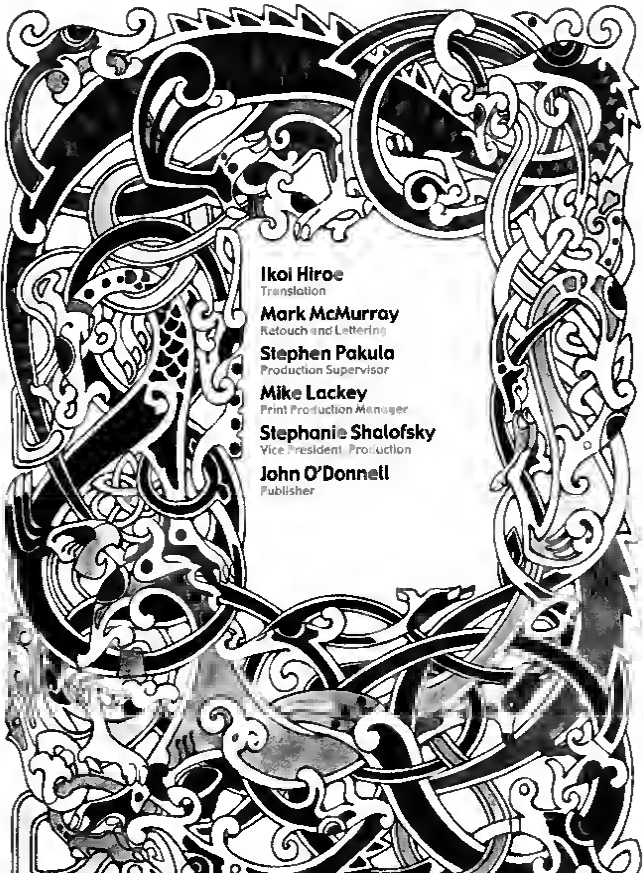
The Lady of Pharis

BOOK TWO



"outstanding" -Shotgun Reviews

Ryo Mizuno
Akihiro Yamada



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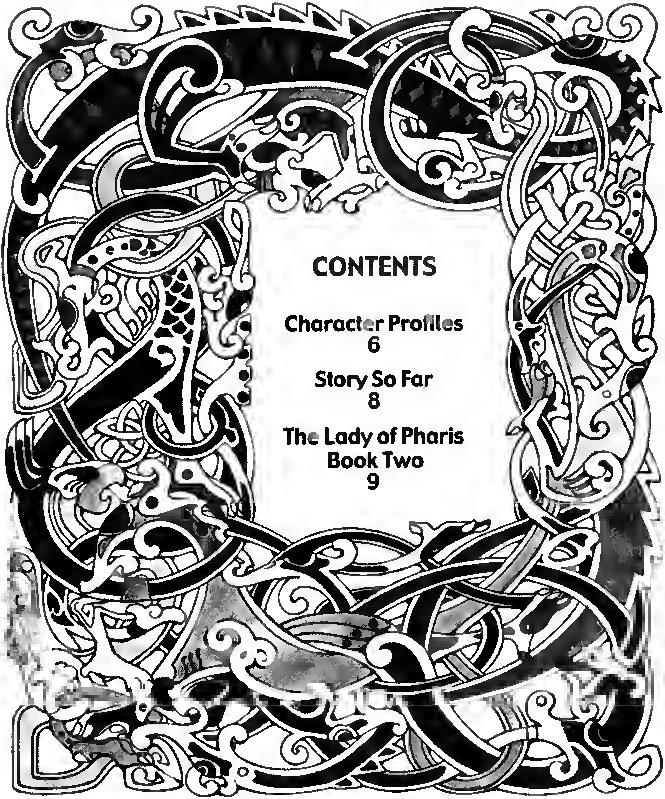
RECORD OF

# LODOSS WAR

## The Lady of Pharis

BOOK TWO



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**EDITOR'S NOTE:**
In Japan, ***THE LADY OF PHARIS*** was published western style, left to right. To preserve the original vision of the artist, we too are publishing ***THE LADY OF PHARIS*** left to right. The original artwork and sound effects are presented just like they were in Japan with minimal sound effect translation so that you can see and enjoy the comic like the original Manga creators intended.

The format we have decided to use to present the books was chosen by YOU the fans. We surveyed and found that the overwhelming majority of fans prefer their manga translated in just the format we are using.

# RECORD OF LODOSS WAR

## The Lady of Pharis

**BOOK TWO**

**Ryo Mizuno**
Writer

**Akihiro Yamada**
Artist



CPM® MANGA
New York, New York

# CHARACTER PROFILES

—THE DEMON LORD—
Taking the guise of a maiden clothed in darkness, she is a force of destruction and mayhem.

—FLAUS—
A single-minded warrior fighting in the name of the Goddess of Light, Pharis.

—BELD—
A mercenary fighting alongside Flaus in the fight against darkness ..but he's felt temptation The goddess of madness has touched him.

—NEECE—
Neece called upon Marfa to use her body as a vessel, and through this, darkness was driven back... but now Neece lies unconscious.

—ENDINKA—
An elfin maiden, and survivor of the massacre in the Forest of Mirrors.

—FLAIBE—
This dwarf King saw the forces of darkness wipe out his people and destroy his kingdom.

—WORT—
This mysterious mercenary wizard has been an ally to our heroes from the beginning, but it is unknown what drives him.

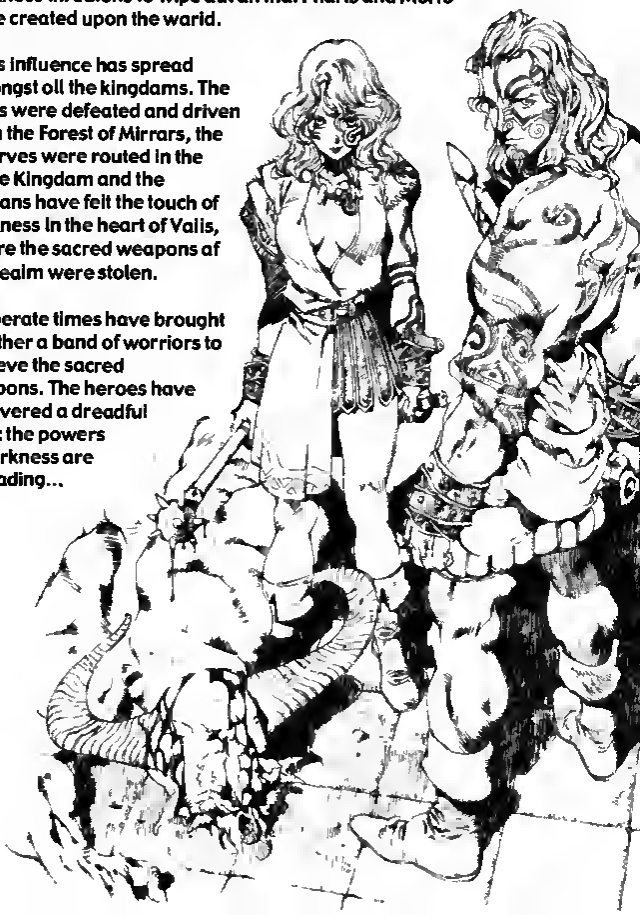
—THE NAMELESS ONE—
A wizard/warrior with a mysterious past whose aim is unknown

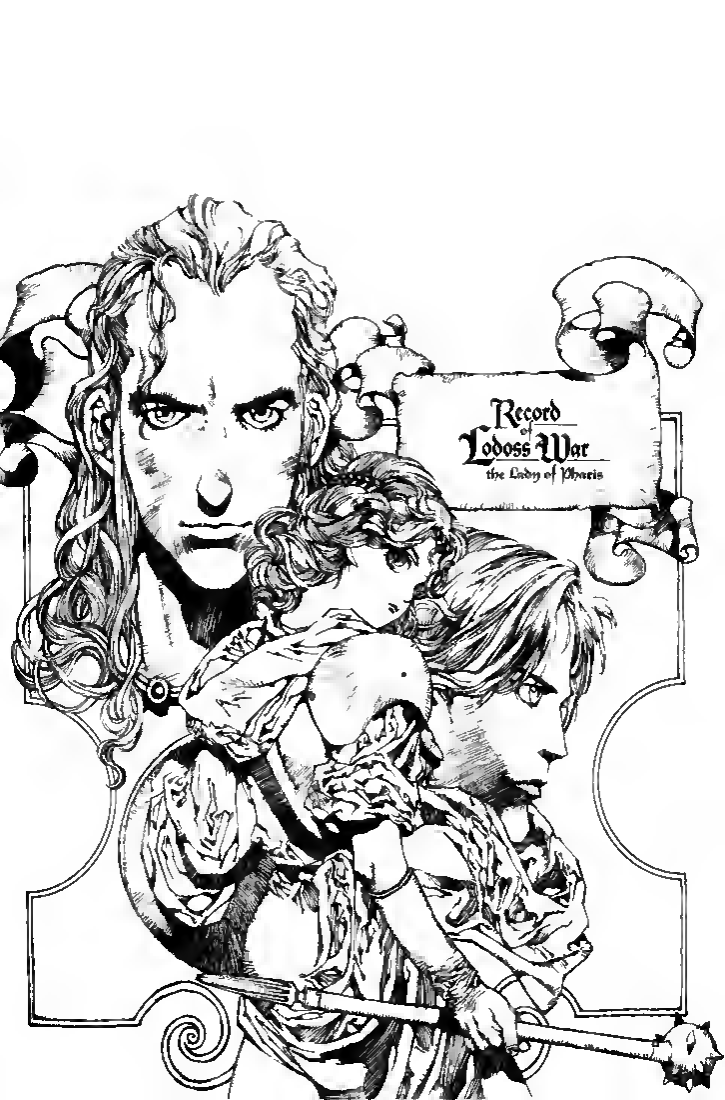
## STORY SO FAR

The greed of ane man has unleashed evit upan the world of Lodoss. Naw darkness threatens to wipe aut all that Pharis and Morfo have created upon the warid.

Evit's influence has spread amongst oll the kingdams. The elves were defeated and driven from the Forest of Mirrars, the dwarves were routed in the Stone Kingdam and the humans have felt the touch of darkness in the heart of Valis, where the sacred weapons af the realm were stolen.

Desperate times have brought together a band of worriors to retrieve the sacred weapons. The heroes have uncovered a dreadful truth: the powers of darkness are spreading...




Record of Lodoss War
the Lady of Pharis

tap tap
HEH...
HA HA HA !!
HURRY UP AND GET RID OF THE DEMONS, EH?
THE KING OF THE DRAGONS SAID THAT?
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
OPEN THE GATE!
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP

THE KING OF VALIS HAS ARRIVED.
GRANT US PERMISSION TO ENTER THE CASTLE.
WAIT.
WE SHOULD NOT RUSH.
YES!
BUT...
GRRR
THE ENVOY THAT LEFT BEFORE US SHOULD ARRIVE SOON. WE'LL CAMP OUTSIDE THE CASTLE UNTIL THEN.
WE DON'T WANT THEM TO THINK US RUDE
PLEASE WAIT!
YOUR SAFE ARRIVAL GLADDENS MY HEART.
YOUR JOURNEY MUST HAVE BEEN AIDED BY SORCERY, TO BE ABLE TO ARRIVE BEFORE A SPEEDING HORSE.
I'LL LEAD YOU INSIDE.
YOU'RE THE DUKE'S MESSENGER.

YOUR MAJESTY!
WHAT?
THE KING OF VALIS?
LED BY OUR ENVOY, MURDOCK THE FEARLESS, THEY ARE REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ENTER THE CASTLE.
PREPARE TO RECEIVE THEM!
WHAT DOES HE WANT?!
ARRANGE THE GREAT HALL AND ASSEMBLE THE COURTIERS.
I WOULD HAVE SENT AN ENVOY FIRST, AND SOJOURNED IN THE VILLAGE NEAR THE CASTLE--
--BUT AN EMERGENCY REQUIRED THAT I SEEK YOUR AUDIENCE WITHOUT DELAY.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.

AN EMERGENCY PROMPTED THIS VISIT?
YES.
I AM HERE TO DISCUSS A SOUND FUTURE FOR VALIS AND YOUR COUNTRY.
IF YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED, THEN AT LEAST CONSIDER THIS A PEACE NEGOTIATION.
I UNDERSTAND. EXCUSE MY DISCOURTESY, BUT MAY WE CONTINUE THIS IN THE VICEROY'S CHAMBER?
IN ANY CASE--
--I REALIZE YOUR HOLY KNIGHTS WILL JOIN US, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER KNIGHT?
SHE IS A SOLITARY WARRIOR--
--BUT I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST HER PRESENCE.
YOUR HIGHNESS, I AM DEEPLY HONORED--
--HOWEVER, I MUST RESPECTFULLY DECLINE
I HUMBLY REQUEST A ROOM TO REST MY WEARY BODY.

THIS IS GOOD.
CLAVACK
MOSS WILL SOON REUNITE.
OTHER COUNTRIES WILL RISE TO ACTION QUICKLY.

NOW--
--ALL WE NEED IS A HERO.
HEY!
WHAT?
I SEE DUST CLOUDS TOWARD THE NORTH.
IT'S...
THE WARRIOR PRIESTS OF MARFA!
AN ARMY OF DWARVES IS WITH THEM!
LET US HOPE...
...THAT IT BE FRIENDS, NOT FOES.
HUH?

IT'S FLAUS!
EVERYONE, FLAUS HAS RETURNED WITH THE WARRIOR PRIESTS OF MARFA AND AN ARMY OF DWARVES!
I CAN HEAR THE VILLAGERS' CRIES OF JOY.
NEECE COLLAPSED AFTER MARFA MIRACULOUSLY DESCENDED INTO HER.
BELD WAS POSSESSED BY THE NAMELESS GODDESS OF MADNESS.
WHAT CAN I DO? I AM..
...POWERLESS.

A CREATURE, DRESSED AS A VALISIAN HOLY KNIGHT, IN ALLIANCE WITH DEMONS, CAUSED VIOLENCE HERE I BELIEVE THIS WAS PART OF THE DEMONS' PLAN.
DUKE OF MYCEN.
WE, THE VALISIANS, WORSHIP THE GOD OF JUSTICE AND ORDER, PHARIS.
WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ARMED AGGRESSION TOWARDS YOUR COUNTRY.
HOLY KING OF VALIS,
WHAT DO YOU ASK OF ME?
I NEED YOUR HELP--
--GETTING ACCORDANCE FROM THE LORDS OF MOSS, AND ARRANGING A MEETING WITH THE KINGS OF LODOSS TO FORM AN ALLIANCE.
SQUEEZE
ギュッ!

IF I AGREE--
--VALIS WILL SUBMIT TO THIS SMALL KINGDOM OF MINE,
AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT *I* AM THE ***LEGITIMATE*** KING OF MOSS.
CAN YOU AGREE TO THIS?
DUKE!!
I HAVE NO PLANS TO INTERFERE WITH THE ASSEMBLY REGARDING MOSS' SELECTION OF THEIR KING.
IN PARTICULAR, WE WILL NOT OBSTRUCT YOUR BID AS THE KING OF MOSS.
THE DEMONS EXPECT YOU TO WAGE WAR FOR FURTHER PROMINENCE, USING YOUR IMPROVED MILITARY MIGHT.
I, THE KING OF VALIS, CAN BE CONSIDERED A HOSTAGE AS LONG AS I'M INSIDE THIS CASTLE
WHEN MOSS BECOMES PART OF THE HIGHLANDS, YOU WILL BECOME A PROMINENT KINGDOM IN LODOSS.
YOU'RE FREE TO ANNOUNCE TO OTHERS THAT YOU HAVE A PACT WITH VALIS
I'M AN OLD MAN I'VE NO DESIRE FOR FURTHER ACQUISITIONS.
WOULD YOU CONSIDER FOCUSING YOUR POWER TO BRING ***PEACE*** TO LODOSS?

YOUR HIGHNESS.
I'VE BEEN CALLED *MURDOCK THE FEARLESS.*
FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS VALISIAN KING LEFT ME IN AWE
IF YOUR HIGHNESS TURNS AGAINST VALIS, HISTORY WILL NOT FORGET SUCH A VILE ACT.
IN THAT CASE, I WILL SPLIT MY BODY IN HALF TO PROVE MY ALLEGIANCE TO BOTH KINGDOMS.
HOLY KING, YOU CALL YOURSELF A HOSTAGE--
--BUT IN THIS CASE IT SEEMS *I'M* THE HOSTAGE.
YOU'D GAINED THE SUPPORT OF MY INCORRUPTIBLE COMRADE, MURDOCK THE FEARLESS.

LET GO!
LET GO OF ME!
BAM
CRASH
THUD
MIND YOUR MANNERS INSIDE THE CASTLE!
NO WAY!
WE GOTTA SPEAK TO THE DUKE NOW!
WHAT'S THIS UPROAR ABOUT?
DUKE!
MYCEN DRAGON EMPEROR!
YOUR HIGHNESS!
WE'VE COME FROM THE EAST, FROM UZU VILLAGE.
THE HOLY KNIGHTS HELPED US WHILE WE WERE BATTLING GOBLINS...
THE DUKE CANNOT SEE YOU.
LET THEM SPEAK.
STATE YOUR BUSINESS QUICKLY

AN ARMY.
WE NEED YOU TO SEND AN ARMY.
THE DEMONS DESTROYED THE FOREST OF MIRRORS.
THE FOREST OF MIRRORS?
GOBLINS USED TO OCCASIONALLY RAID OUR STOREHOUSE.
THIS TIME, IT'S DIFFERENT.
THE GOLDEN TREES WERE INJURED BY THE DEMONS.
THE FOREST TURNED BLOOD RED AND THE TREES BEGAN TO WITHER.
ANIMALS DIED AFTER EATING THE ROTTEN FOOD.
THE WOMEN TRIED GATHERING NUTS AN' BERRIES BUT THEY'RE ROTTEN
THIS PLAGUE SEEMS TO BE SPREADING FURTHER
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE OUR VILLAGE, MAYBE EVEN THE COUNTRY.

WE'RE BEGGING YOU!
WE DON'T CARE IF YOU KILL US HERE.
JUST SEND AN ARMY TO KILL THE DEMONS!!
I UNDER-STAND.
GET SOME REST. AN ARMY WILL BE SENT TO YOUR VILLAGE.
TH...
THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS!
HOLY KING OF VALLIS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN MOSS HAS CONTINUED SINCE MY BIRTH.
I WASN'T INTERESTED IN FIGHTING OVER LAND AND CROWN LIKE THE OTHERS.
I WANTED TO LEAD A QUIET LIFE AS THE KING OF A SMALL COUNTRY.
BUT, THERE IS AN URGE BUILDING IN MY HEART.
A DESIRE TO DO SOMETHING.
SIR O. FLORIN.
YOUR HIGH-NESS!
THE KING OF THE DRAGONS WANTS THE DEMONS DESTROYED, CORRECT?
HE'S THE ONE THAT SAID IT FIRST.
HE CAN HELP US.

EVERYONE...
EAT YOUR FILL!
BRING OUT ALL THE WHISKEY FROM STORAGE.
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, MA'AM.
THERE'S SO MANY OF US HERE
YOUR PRESENCE IS A BLESSING.
--THEY'RE FROM A VILLAGE CALLED ATHES.
SEE--
SINCE MY HUSBAND DIED, I TOOK OVER HIS DUTIES AS MAYOR.
TO BE HONEST, I FELT REALLY HELPLESS

SEE THE TORCHES ON THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN?
LADY FLAUS
MANY PEOPLE FROM NEARBY VILLAGES ARE GATHERING TO FIGHT DEMONS.
THEY'VE GATHERED BECAUSE THEY KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
AT DAYBREAK, WE'LL TAKE LADY NEECE TO A MARFA CHARITY HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.
AT THIS RATE, SHE MAY NEVER RECOVER.
NOBODY IN ALL OF HISTORY HAS RECOVERED AFTER A GOD DESCENDED INTO HER BODY.
I SEE.
PLEASE--
--TAKE CARE OF HER.
CERTAINLY.
SHE'S AN INCOMPARABLE PRIESTESS. SHE WILL LIVE ON AS A LEGEND IN MARFA HISTORY.
YOU TOO.
ME?

LADY NEECE SAID--
--YOU ARE THE SAINT OF PHARIS.
SHE SAID WE NEED TO LEARN FROM YOUR COURAGE AND CONDUCT.
AND, WE NEED TO FIGHT HARD TO EASE YOUR BURDEN
DON'T WORRY, THE UNINJURED WARRIORS WILL REMAIN WITH YOU.
WE WANTED TO STAY IN THE FOREST OF MIRRORS TO OBSERVE THE GOLDEN TREES, BUT--
I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE THE FOREST.
I HEARD HUMANS HAD CAPTURED ENDINKA, SO I HAD NO CHOICE
--MARFA CANNOT REJUVENATE THE GOLDEN TREES!
THE LIFE FORCE OF THOSE ANCIENT TREES HAS ROOTS IN THE ELFIN WORLD
OUR CAPTAIN, WITH THE CHIEF FROM THE FOREST OF NO RETURN, IS PROTECTING IT WITH STRONG ELFIN MAGIC.
LET THEM HANDLE IT
WICKED HUMANS, YOUR VILE GREED UNLEASHED THE DEMONS

LOOK AT THE IMMEASURABLE GRIEF HUMANS HAVE CAUSED.
CRUNCH
HH!
WHAT!?
SLAP
HOW DARE YOU--
--HURL ACCUSATIONS DURING THIS SITUATION?!
W-- WHAT!?
AT LEAST WE'RE TRYING TO REDRESS THE WRETCHED ACTIONS OF OUR KIND.
THE PROCESSION OF TORCHES OVER THERE!
SEE FOR YOURSELF!

THEY'RE ALL HUMANS.
THEY'RE ALL GATHERING TO FIGHT THE DEMONS
WE NEITHER HAVE THE STRENGTH OF THE DWARVES--
--OR THE LONGEVITY OF THE ELVES!!
KNEEL IN FRONT OF THE PROCESSION!
YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED!!
WE LOST THIS ONE, ELF!!
SHE'S RIGHT, MY BROTHER.
HA HA HA!

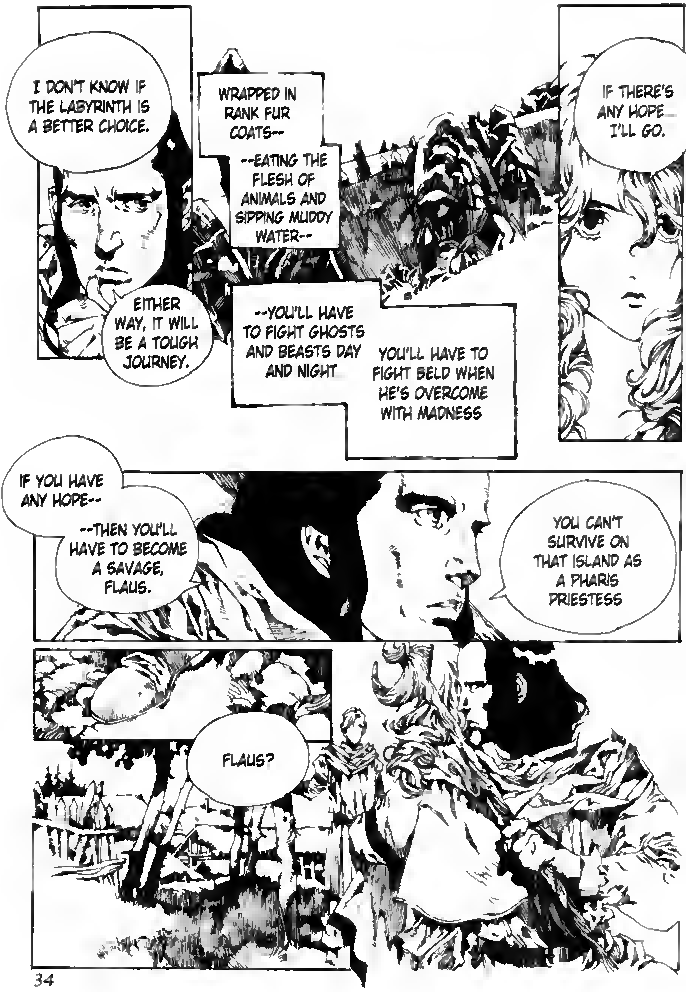
ENDINKA...
SQUEEZE
PROUD ELFIN WARRIOR,
TAKE MY HAND
ELFIN MAIDEN, LONG LIVED AS THE EARTH AND SKY--
--GUARD YOUR LIFE AND SING THE GREAT TALE--
--OF A GREAT ALLIANCE OF ELVES AND DWARVES--
--WHO FOUGHT AS ONE IN THE WAR AGAINST DEMONS
BELD...

HOW IRONIC.
ALL THIS BICKERING OVER RACE
DEMONS MAKE NO SUCH DISTINCTIONS.
SIR FAHN!
IS SIR FAHN, A VALISIAN HOLY KNIGHT, HERE?!
WHAT IS IT?
Crash
!!
MARIELLE?
I'M A MESSENGER FROM THE HIGHLANDS
TWO MEN FROM THIS VILLAGE TRAVELED TO APPEAL TO THE DUKE OF MYCEN. THEY SAID YOU'D BE FOUND HERE

TWO MEN?
DID HE SAY TWO MEN?
WORT--
--THE GENIUS SORCERER.
GREAT SAGE
THIS IS IN THE HANDS OF THE GODS NOW. I DON'T THINK SORCERY WILL HELP.
ISN'T THAT YOUR SPECIALTY?
PLEASE THINK, IS THERE ANY WAY WE CAN SAVE BELD?
THE NAMELESS GODDESS OF MADNESS
A FEW ANCIENT KINGDOMS WORSHIPPED HER--
--BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
THE ELVES FROM THE FOREST OF MIRRORS DID SAY--
--THAT DARK ELVES SOMETIMES HAVE SECRET SOCIETIES THAT STILL WORSHIP HER.
YOU WOULD FIND THOSE DARK ELVES--

--ON MARMO,
--THE ISLAND OF DARKNESS.
IT'S A WICKED ISLAND--
--WHERE HUMANS AND GHOSTS COEXIST TOGETHER.
THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE THE GREAT TEMPLE OF FALARIS,
AND THE FOSSILIZED BODY OF KARDIS,
THE GODS OF DARKNESS, REMAIN.
THIS WOULD BE THE PLACE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE DARK GODS.
WHEN WE WERE WORKING AS MERCENARIES WITH KANON'S SOUTHERN GARRISON--
--SOME SOLDIERS THOUGHT THAT BELD WAS FROM A SAVAGE TRIBE
I NEVER LOOKED INTO IT, BUT IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME

THE SAVAGE TRIBES OF THE DARK FOREST UTILIZE A STRANGE, UNIQUE FORM OF SWORD FIGHTING.
IT IS SIMILAR TO THE "LUNATIC DANCE." IT IS A DANCE USED IN BLACK MAGIC TO CAUSE MADNESS.
YOU THINK BELD USES THAT?
I DON'T KNOW. I HAVE NO INTEREST IN MARTIAL ARTS.
YOU NEED TO ASK SOMEONE THAT KNOWS MORE.
IT WILL BE FASTER THAN LOOKING TO COUNTER THE GODDESS OF MADNESS HERE.
I'LL GO...
TO MARMO.


I DON'T KNOW IF THE LABYRINTH IS A BETTER CHOICE.
EITHER WAY, IT WILL BE A TOUGH JOURNEY.
WRAPPED IN RANK FUR COATS--
--EATING THE FLESH OF ANIMALS AND SIPPING MUDDY WATER--
--YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT GHOSTS AND BEASTS DAY AND NIGHT
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT BELD WHEN HE'S OVERCOME WITH MADNESS
IF THERE'S ANY HOPE... I'LL GO.
IF YOU HAVE ANY HOPE--
--THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO BECOME A SAVAGE, FLAUS.
YOU CAN'T SURVIVE ON THAT ISLAND AS A PHARIS PRIESTESS
FLAUS?

EVERYONE, I'M REALLY SORRY--
--BUT--
--I MUST LEAVE FOR THE HIGHLANDS IMMEDIATELY.
MY KING AWAITS.
FAHN--
--YOU'RE AN HONORABLE WARRIOR.
ALONG WITH YOUR KING, MANY OTHERS ARE WAITING FOR YOU--
--TO ARRIVE, WITH YOUR SACRED WEAPONS--
--AND LEAD THEM INTO HOLY BATTLE.
PLEASE GIVE ME SOME TIME

I SHALL RETURN
WE WILL FIGHT TOGETHER AGAIN
--TELL THEM THAT FLAUS' FAITH HAS BEEN BROKEN.
IF ANYONE FROM THE PHARIS MONASTERY INQUIRES ABOUT ME--
THE PRESENCE OF PHARIS INSIDE YOU IS STRONGER NOW THAN BEFORE.
BELD AND I ARE BOTH CLODS, AND WEREN'T ABLE TO TREAT YOU AS A LADY.
FLAUS.
BUT, YOU ARE, WITHOUT QUESTION, TRULY A LADY.
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

BELD.
I WISH YOU ETERNAL PEACE ON LODOSS
THIS CURSED ISLAND IS WAITING FOR ITS TRUE KING.
I'LL NOT HAND YOU TO THE GODDESS OF MADNESS.